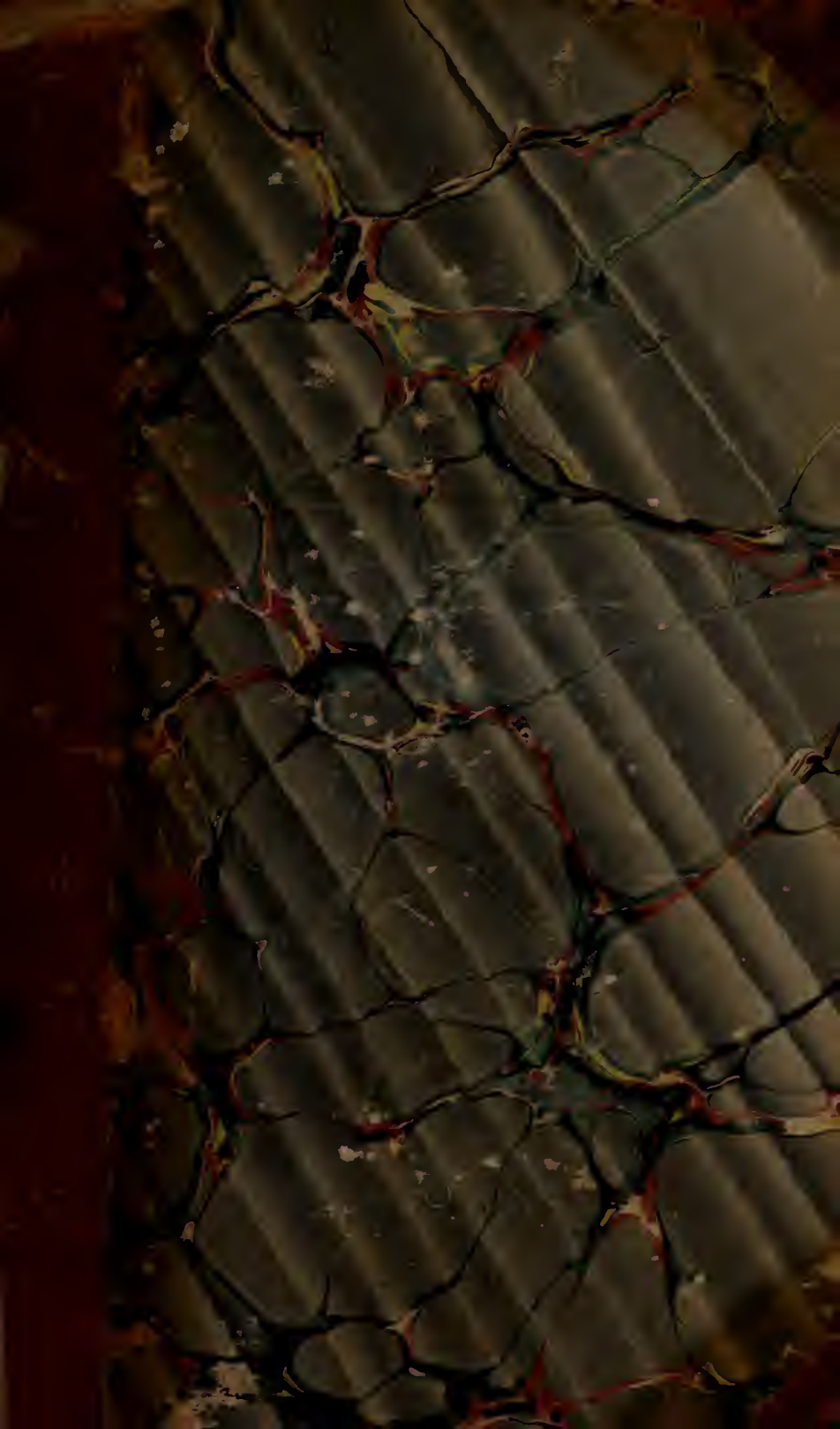

98-1
16

LIBRARY
OF THE
Theological Seminary,
PRINCETON, N. J.

Case, Div. I
Shelf, Sect. 7
Book, No.

THE

UNITED BRETHREN'S

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,

AND

RELIGIOUS MISCELLANY:

CONTAINING THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN; WITH OTHER INTERESTING COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

No 6, SECOND QUARTER, 1847. Vol. IX.

APPENDIX

TO THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE RECENTLY HELD AT HERRNHUT.—EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE REV. MR. DUERR, STATIONED AT DULY-IBRAHIM IN ALGIERS.

Algiers is a country which is so constituted, as to excite all the powers and talents of the outward, as well as the inward man. Grand in its natural formation, and grand in its demands upon man, it is a country beautiful to look upon and richly blessed by the Lord, and though it be no Canaan, yet it is as far from being an Egypt.—By means of diligence and labour,—through unwearied perseverance and steadfastness in the prosecution of that which has been commenced,—by blending the cunning of the serpent with the simplicity of the Dove,—but above all, by exercising earnest and universal love, much, very much of good and great, may, through the powerful assistance of divine grace, be accomplished in this long neglected country. It is like a wonderful tree which is as yet but in the bud.—"Every thing throughly and nothing by halves," this must be the motto of him who wishes to accomplish something of lasting good here in this land.

Our government here, fortunately embraces several individuals in high places who are entirely convinced of the truth of this course

of action and who are unwearied in their labours to accomplish good. The civilization of the country advances with giant-strides. Agriculture and Horticulture, it is true, are as yet but in their infancy, yet even in this respect great improvements have been made within the last years. On account of the ease with which two harvests, (one in spring and one in summer) can here be procured, we may confidently expect that if the fertility of the soil is encouraged by diligence and intelligence, the imigrants, though they increase ever so much in number, may find a rich and profitable subsistance here.

All that which is produced by Africa's soil bears the stamp of vigour and beauty, and this is the case in so high a degree that I have never seen it equalled even in our fruitful and beautiful Alsatia. In enumerable flowers of the most beautiful appearance,—flowers which would in Europe adorn the finest gardens,—here grow in luxuriant abundance in the common fields.

Within the last year imigration has greatly increased, and the European population of Algiers has been augmented by about 20,000 colonists. Among these four-fifths are engaged in agriculture.

For the present there can be no idea entertained of establishing an independent *protestant* common school, as it would be impossible to procure teachers; it therefore seems more expedient that we, for the present, remain satisfied with the promiscuous school which has been established. This school is attended by about 40 or 50 children, and is at present under the direction of an upright and well inclined individual, who has been recommended to our president by Mons. Daniel Le Grand.

I keep divine service here twice every sunday, but have not been able to commence a regular catechetical instruction, as there are, beside my two grown up children, but three others who are capable of being instructed, and even these are in very delicate health. I have this year seven candidates for Confirmation in this place. They are composed of the following individuals: my son Charles, the son of my servant, one lad from Ouled-Feyet, one lad from El-Achour who is already over 18 years old and enrolled in the militia, two girls from Ouled-Feyet, and one girl from St. Ferdinand; therefore seven children from four different places. In Drahriach, however, I have thirteen candidates for confirmation

and 7 Hearers. The parents of these children have for the most part emigrated to the country within the last year. In this place I give instruction in the French language altogether, as most of the families come originally from the Canton of Neufchatel; in Duly Ibrahim, however, the instruction is conducted in the german language. Until within a month I kept this instruction twice in Duly Ibrahim each time 2 hours, and twice a week I went to Drahriach, (about 5 miles distant from the former place); but after the confirmation of my german scholars, which will take place on the coming Trinity sunday, I hope I shall be able to keep the instruction in Drahriach *three* times a week. The confirmation in Drahriach will take place in about 6 or 8 weeks. The catechumens of Duly-Ibrahim have received instructions on 24 days. Notwithstanding all the pains I took I could not succeed in making my scholars here learn more by heart than the 6 principal articles of faith, a certain number of scripture texts and some hymns. I thought it would be better to let them learn little but that little *well* instead of much matter and that but *half learnt*. My french catechumens I hope to get on considerably further as they have had much better previous instruction.

In the course of this summer I intend to commence a course of instruction for the German children of Ouled Feyet & El Achour. The consistory has approved of this instruction. The schoolmaster here is acquainted with the French language alone; the preachings and religious instruction in Duly-Ibrahim are, however, conducted in the german. But how shall our young German people learn to love their german Bible, their german prayerbook and catechism if they are not instructed in this language, and yet the French language dare not be neglected either. I therefore intend keeping instruction in both languages alternately twice or three times a week. It is a lamentable fact that alone those of our young people can read and write who could do so before their parents emigrated to this country. The most of the others, who were small when they came, but have now grown up, can either read nor write, some very few excepted whose parents have sent them to the city of Algiers to be instructed. On this account the religious indifference in Duly-Ibrahim is so great, that whereas, my preachings are attended numerously by persons from Ouled Feyet, Drahriach, El Achour and even from Dauchra and Algiers, there are frequently but two or three men and four or five women present from this place.

The newcomers are yet used to, and feel the want of the evangelical pasture of their fatherland, whereas the older colonists have, through long neglect, fallen unto a death-like sleep of indifference. However, with God nothing is impossible and therefore I confidently hope from the faithfulness and mercy of our God, whose promises are Yea and Amen through Christ that he has called me to this place that I may be of blessing to many among the older Colonists. One circumstance which strengthens me in this confidence occurred on last Whitsuntide and was a real Penticostal blessing to me. On the evening of that day a carpenter who belonged to the most indifferent and careless class came to me and begged me to give him something to read, and added: "but it must be something which will touch the heart: You have to-day," he continued, "kept a sermon the like of which I never heard in Duly-Ibrahim!" He then related some things to me concerning his native village, from which I could conclude that a blessing from former times still rested upon him. Another of the families here, has also been awakened in a most pleasing manner.

The Order in which Divine service is kept here is as follows: In Duly-Ibrahim there is German service kept every Sunday morning at 9 o'clock which is attended by the Protestants of the neighboring settlements. Every other Sunday I keep Divine service in the French language at 1 o'clock P. M. in Drahriach, about 5 miles from Duly-Ibrahim, which is attended by the Protestants of four other neighboring villages. On these Sundays there is then of course no worship in Duly-Ibrahim in the afternoon. As, however, there are also many German families in Drahriach and its neighborhood, I intend occasionally also to keep German service there. Our church Elder has hitherto permitted his house, in which there is a suitable room, to be used as a place of worship; he is an upright Christian who supports me with energy and much kindness in my duties. The Government of the colony has promised to permit us to use all the newly erected Schoolhouses as places of worship. In Algiers a new Church is about being erected, and at Duly-Ibrahim it is the intention to build one during the course of this year. I am on very good terms with all the catholic priests of those congregations in which there are any protestants. We have, since I am here three times already celebrated the holy sacrament here in Duly-Ibrahim and once in Drah-

fiach, and each time it has been a most blessed season for all who participated.

A Presbytery, composed of 4 members, of whom one is a member of the General Consistory in Algiers, is established here in Duly-Ibrahim ; to it belongs one member from the section Ouled-Feyet, and one from the section Drahriach. The Consistory in Algiers has approved of this institution and has confirmed all the elections it has made. The government has also granted us a sacristan and precentor with a salary of 300 Francs. This person always accompanies me if, I wish it, upon my wanderings ; and in order to insure a living for himself and his wife, we have taken them both into our service and are well satisfied with them. The woman serves as nurse for our three small children, and the man as Overseer and labourer in the fields.

In Drahriach there are regular hours of practice in singing Hymns for the young people of that place which are conducted by one of the members of the Presbytery who is a great friend of church-music. Up to this time we have no regular Hymn-books. In Duly-Ibrahim we have hitherto used the Wurtemburg edition as most of the Colonists come from that country. In Drahriach, where the French language prevails, there there are various Hymnbooks used ; in Algiers an edition of the Psalms are in use ; and thus we endeavour to make shift as well as circumstances allow.

The number of Protestant inhabitants in Algiers has not as yet been correctly ascertained. In 33 of the villages there are Protestants, and besides these there are many scattered upon single farms. None of these settlements extend beyond the Atlas mountains. They are all situated within *one* district, and I shall therefore visit them all. The evangelical Minister is everywhere welcome and is received with much joy and friendship whereever he comes. It is absolutely necessary that these people should be occasionally visited, for the spirit of discouragement on the one hand, and lightmindedness and indifference on the other, have, especially here in Africa, the strength of a destroying torrent. But how shall I be able to visit all these people properly and regularly without possessing a horse ? In connection with the church which is to be built here this year, the commencement for the building of a parsonage is also to be made. In Douchra a Catho-

lic church is being built at present, and as soon as it is comp'eted we are to receive the chapel in which the Catholic worship has hitherto been conducted. I shall then keep, once a month German and French service, as the protestant inhabitants are of a mixed character there. The congregation which will be formed there will probably embrace no less than seven filial congregations in the neighborhood. As soon as the number af Protestants in Drahriach is large enough to justify the establishment of a separate congregation there, a request to this effect will be handed in by the Consistory to government and this congregation will then belong to the Reformed church.

In the coming month of October I intend to commence the confirmation in the sections Douchra and Birkaden. Around Douchra the above mentioned 7 congregations group themselves, and around Birkaden there are 5 others, and besides these the german catechumens of Algiers will attend there. The German protestants in and around Algiers intend to petition the Consistory of Algiers that I shall be authorized to keep a German preaching every month in Algiers, as the distance is too great for them to attend divine worship at Duly-Ibrahim. I have preached but once in the city of Algiers and then it was in the French language, and at the particular request of the President. I offered also to keep german service there, from time to time, but this has not as yet been granted by the President.

It is my constant endeavour to confine my activity here in Algiers within the bounds of the protestant community and among those of the same persuasion with myself and to avoid all ungenuine proselytism, which would go beyond our christian liberty. The following fact may serve as a proof of this assertion ; about ten days ago a catholic, whose wife and children are protestants, came to me and requested to receive the communion from me at the coming festival of Whitsuntide. Although I knew him to have been for some time a serious inquirer into evangelical truth, yet, as I had good reason to believe that the step he now wished to take resulted from the persuasions of his wife and children, I put him off for the present in as friendly manner as possible, but gave him some works of a suitable character which I recommended him to peruse attentively, and at the same time exhorted him diligently to search the scriptures, so that he might come to a clear conviction of what was his duty in this respect. This manner of acting

seemed very strange to this man, the more so, as a catholic german priest in Algiers had shortly before, tried his utmost to persuade his wife to become a catholic; and the Bishop had also a short time ago brought over into the catholic church some protestant prisoners in Algiers and had baptized them with much pomp and display. I converse with catholics concerning the protestant faith only in such cases, where they really desire information and then even it is always my endeavour to speak in a spirit of christian charity.

In Duly-Ibrahim and in Drahriach two libraries for the people, containing edifying reading matter, have been established; these are open to all who desire to use them, and thus much reading is spread among the people. I have myself already lent out 88 different edifying works to 62 different individuals

Since I am here there have been eight baptisms in Duly-Ibrahim and in four other places. Burials there have been none as yet nor have any marriages been celebrated. I feel and know well that but *little* has been done, in comparison to that which ought to be done, since the four months that I have laboured in Algiers, yet even the little that has been accomplished must not be despised. There can, there must, and there will be much accomplished through divine assistance and grace towards the improvement of this beauteaus land, and if the Lord but graciously preserves my courage and strengthens my health and life I will not be wanting on my part! "The welfare of Algiers!" is my motto. Prayer, patience, love and perseverance are my weapons; the promises of the Lord my food, my light and my comfort. Until now I have been, as the only german protestant clergeman in the country, the refuge of all the german protestants, and in a great degree also of the French who come into the interior.

My dwelling is situated on the main road and has the inscription: "Oratoire" affixed to it in large letters. Whoever comes to me dare not be sent away; "break thy bread to the hungry and bring the poor that are cast out to thy hause," such is the language of the scriptures. According to my small means every poor traveller that passes by receives a small glass of wine and a piece of bread. Such visits as these are thus frequently the occasion of my being able to break the *bread of life* to those that need it much, and often already, he who was nigh unto despair because he

found himself without work, without money and friends, has parted from me with tears of gratitude in his eyes that I had opened to him in the word of God a fountain of comfort and showed him the way to an unchangeable friend and support in every trouble and trial.

In the school of personal troubles *we* have also had our experiences, yet the Lord has always soon helped both directly and indirectly. Thus, immediately during the first week of our stay here, a fire broke out in my room which was, however got under very soon again by the assistance of our neighbors. My wife and children have been sick, but they are now in part entirely recovered or at least convalescent. 'Every beginning is hard;' why therefore should it be different with us in Algiers? I am most surely and perfectly convinced that the Lord our God, who has called us hither, who has brought us safely accross the raging sea and who has preserved my health and courage during all my various labours, will continue to strengthen us still more in the performance of our duties. May He preserve his peace to me and bestow his blessing upon all my undertakings and labours, so that his kingdom may be increased through the instrumentality of myself, his unworthy servant, wherever my foot is planted and wherever my mouth proclaims his praise and honour.

At present one can travel at all times of the night with the most perfect safety, and this is of great importance to me in my duties, as pastor among the scattered congregations. Upon my many wanderings on the most lonesome roads I have frequently met whole caravans of Arabians on foot and mounted, and have passed quite peaceably through their midst; I have several times also, when coming home from Algiers late at night, either alone or with my son, (sometimes my son, who is about 14 years old has been quite alone) have come past Arabian caravans which were encamped by the side of great camp-fires along the road, and have never experienced the slightest illtreatment from them. Among many of the Arabians I am already well known, and they salute me respectfully as the Marabout el Roumi, that is: the Priest of the Christians.

MEMOIR

OF THE LIFE OF BR. RASMUS SCHMIDT, MISSIONARY IN SURINAM, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE AT NEW BOMBAY, APRIL 12th, 1845.

"I was born," he writes, "June 23rd, 1792, at Wilstrup, in the duchy of Holstein. My parents, though poor, were deeply concerned for their children's welfare, especially my mother, who was a true believer in Christ. Hence, from my earliest childhood, she lost no opportunity of admonishing and warning me. But I must confess, to my shame, that I cared but little for her affectionate admonitions. In fact, I preferred the company of my father, who was not so strict in things which the world does not regard as improper. But the Lord heard the sighs of my faithful mother, and, in my thirteenth year, made use of a severe illness to inspire me with a wholesome fear. On my sick-bed, the Holy Spirit shewed me, that I was a naughty child and a great sinner before God. I shuddered, and thought within myself: 'There is no escape for me; I am too wicked and depraved.' The enemy rejoiced, and strengthened my belief, that though all mankind besides might find forgiveness for their sins, there could be none for me. My mother and my sister Anna Maria, who had shortly before attained to true self-knowledge, described to me the true love of our Saviour to poor sinners, of which they had made the happy experience. But it was in vain; I could receive no consolation, and exclaimed in deep distress; "Oh! I am lost for ever! Troubled for me past expression, they now sent for our dear Pastor, Hans Wildekilde. As he approached my bed and asked how I was, I replied: 'not well; I am lost.' 'Are you then so great a sinner?' he proceeded. 'Yes,' was my answer, 'there is not a geater in the whole earth.' 'Then,' rejoined he, 'the Saviour sends me now to you, to tell you that He has borne all your sins on the cross; to that they were all nailed. For you, my child, even for you, the Saviour was made a curse, that you might not be lost.' This struck me, and now I expected, that our Saviour would come that moment, and take me to Himself. To all human appearance, there was no hope of my recovery; but my hour was not yet come, and in three weeks I was well again.

"My father, who was a tailor, and worked from home, now took me with him as his assistant, which was by no means profitable to my yet unstable heart. His discourse consisted chiefly of lively stories, to which everybody listened with pleasure, but which were poison to my soul. The good impressions which had been made gradually vanished, to the poignant regret of my affectionate mother. On one occasion, when I had indulged in some sinful frolic, of which she was witness, she burst into a flood of tears, as I entered the room, and said: 'you are now a youth of fourteen, and too old for me to inflict bodily chastisement upon

you. But know, that before you saw the light, I entreated the Lord that you might rather die than live unless you should be and remain His entire property. And now, when the Lord has had such mercy on you, my bosom must be wrung with the fear, that I shall see you standing on the great day at His left hand!' These words went deep into my heart; they followed me continually, and cried out against me, whenever I was tempted to levity and sin. Still I was not thoroughly decided, and the Lord could not find room in my heart, because I continued to resist Him, till the time of my confirmation, when I was invited solemnly to renew my baptismal covenant. It was now my earnest desire to become the property of Jesus, and I promised then on this occasion, that henceforth nothing should separate me from Him. I was soon taught however, that I could do nothing in my own strength. I kept my promise scarcely a quarter of a year. All was now over; my baptismal covenant was broken, and I appeared to myself a decided hypocrite. I wept and prayed without ceasing, and was on the verge of despair, so that my father was afraid that I should at length loose my reason. I continued three days in this thoroughly disconsolate condition. The thought then struck me, to call on my dear Pastor Windekilde. As he fixed his eyes on me on entering his room, I felt as though he could see into my heart. He received me very cordially, and I disclosed to him all my wretchedness. He asked me, when I had done, if I know who was working on my heart. I had supposed, that Satan was endeavouring to make me renounce my faith altogether, because I had disobeyed the Holy Spirit. But my faithful Pastor assured me of the contrary, saying: 'No, my son, our Saviour is standing at the door of your heart, watching to come in. I will remember you before Him; but do not cease to pray, till He Himself bears witness in your heart, that He is yours, and you His!' A few days afterwards, I obtained this happiness, and at the next enjoyment of the Holy Communion, the assurance of it was sealed in the most powerful manner.'

Here our late Brother's manuscript breaks off. His widow continues:—

"That the Lord from this time kept possession of his heart, and carried on the good work which He had begun, leading him by wholesome discipline to a genuine knowledge of Himself, appears, among the rest, from a letter of the late Pastor Windekilde, in which he writes to him thus:

"My dear Rasmus, The advice I have to give you in your present situation is: 'Keep fast hold on the Saviour!' I know that he has hold on you; and though you may often have to feel, that you have a corrupt and sinful heart, easily led away by earthly objects to forget the Saviour, yet let not this keep you from Him, but rather cleave to him more closely on that account. You are *never* too bad for Him. He is the friend of sinners! Above all,

hold fast to His wounds; for strength for all our deseases is to be found in the wounds of Jesus. The heart which relies upon His sufferings obtains new life, and that is what we need daily. Oh! how blessed the impression, that Jesus gave Himself to agony and to death for *me*, who was so guilty!—Is this impression lively and abiding, then have we victory, through His wounds and death, over sin, Satan, and the world, and sinful flesh and blood; we overcome them all by the blood of the Lamb. May our Saviour strengthen you for this by His Spirit! Only attend to what He teaches, and remain His poor sinner; then you will experience, that whenever longed for, He is found.'

"I may add, from his own statements to me, that he had many a severe trial to pass through, which, however, invariably brought him nearer to the Lord. It was a great comfort to him, that his father like his mother was truly converted before his end, and that both departed happily, assured of the forgiveness of their sins. He exceedingly valued his lot of grace in being brought to the Brethren's Church, of which he had also the pleasure to see his two sisters, and finally his mother, become members.

"He writes in his journal, February 1st, 1812:—'To my great joy, I received to-day the desired permission to live at Christiansfeld. I offered my whole heart to the Lord, to be purified and sprinkled with His blood, in token that henceforward I would be His property.—June 21st was another memorable day to me, when I, the poorest and unworthiest of His people, was, by reception into the congregation, numbered among the flock which He rules, protects and guides, and feeds.—Dec. 19th: I was favoured for the first time, to partake of the Holy Communion with this congregation of Jesus, and thus to be united with it still more inseparably. There is nought good in me, dear Saviour! Give me a heart glowing with love to Thee, recaptivated by Thy death and passion. Yes, grant me this, that so I may remain faithful to thee in poverty and lowliness.

"October 10th, 1817, he writes:—'Oh, happy hours, when we can feel ourselves most poor and vile, yet pardoned and accepted of the Lord! Might this impression never vanish from my heart!—'Dec. 20th, 1824, I entered a new school of trial, and had not my Saviour interfered and helped me through, I should have perished in my affliction.'—March 3rd, 1827: 'I had chosen something for myself, which now became a burden and a trouble to me. I gained much insight into my heart at this season, for which eternal gratitude is due to my loving and faithful Lord.' —December 5th, 1829:—"A day to be remembered by me, when I was enabled to take the words of the text as from my Saviour's hand, and apply them in their fulness to myself:—'I know thy

work, and tribulation, and poverty (but thou art rich); fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.' (Rev. ii. 9. 10.)

"May 4th, 1830, I received a call to serve the Mission in Suriam. I was amazed, and: 'What meanest thou, O Lord, in choosing so poor a tool for Thy service? Thou hast others in abundance better qualified. Let me rather stay by the stuff.' It was replied: What is that to thee, if I be with thee?' And with that all fear was gone. June 7th, of the same year, I was married to the single Sister Margaret Wilhelmina Lassen." August 29th, we arrived in Paramaribo, full of gratiude for the Lord's gracious care of us. 'It was now our sole desire, to live to His honour, and dedicate all our days to His service, that we might be blessed ourselves.. and set for our blessing. April 8th, 1834, I had the favour to preach the Gospel of peace for the first time to the Negroes at Fort Amsterdam, on which occasion, I powerfully felt, that it is not I that speak, but that the Lord Himself must put the words into my mouth. On the 20th of April, the same year, I was ordained a deacon of the Brethren's Church. Bowed down with a deep sense of my unworthiness, I fell at my Saviour's feet, and sighed to Him for new grace and unction from above. I begged Him to take me anew into His hand, from which nothing is ever plucked, to do with me as it pleased Him, and to take away whatever was an offence to Him. This is my sincere prayer to Him, the searcher of all hearts." Thus far from his own papers.

"During the fifteen years of our happy union, the promises of Christ were our support in every trial. A childlike confidence in Him, the unchangeable faithful One, constantly re-assured our hearts, whenever we were humbled, as was often the case, by a lively sense of our short-comings, and our inferiority in devotedness to all our fellow-labourers. On such occasions my dear husband would say: 'Yes, I know right well, that if the Lord should reckon with me, I should be confounded; but He is my surety, and says: 'fear not, thou art mine.' Why, then, should I torment myself about things, which the Lord will not impute to me, but cover with His blood?' Thus, he relied for everything on His Saviour, and had no rest till he had laid all His difficulties before Him; and then he was cheerful and courageous, and raised his song of thanksgiving and praise.

"He would sometimes quote a Danish verse, which runs, 'Rich I am not certainly, Honest I profess to be; And how great my happiness, Knoweth none but Jesus-Christ;' remarking, that though these quaint lines had a somewhat self-righteous sound, they had always been great favourites of his.

"On our reaching the landing-place at Jenjen, near Bambey,

December 28, 1840, he expressed the feelings of his heart on our arrival in this wilderness, by singing the verse:

Lord, thy body ne'er forsake,
Never thy poor children leave,
We to Thee our refuge take,
Of thy fulness we receive!
Every other help be gone,
Thou art our support alone,
For on Thy supreme commands,
All the universe depends.

"It was increasingly his heart's desire to win souls for the Lamb, though it should cost him his life. This was especially manifested in the closing scenes. Every prayer included a fervent petition to the Lord, that he would draw to Himself the souls that were still straying in the wilderness, and which He had so dearly bought.

"On Sunday, April 6th, he preached for the last time on the parable of the Good Shepherd, and, in the afternoon, addressed the congregation on the words, 'My sheep hear my voice,' &c. (John, x. 27—29.) His heart on this occasion, so overflowed with love to our Saviour, that he could scarcely quit the delightful theme, as if he had a foreboding that it would be the last opportunity. In the preceeding week, he had been busy getting in our Indian corn, and had greatly exerted and overheated himself. On the 7th, after school was over, he again engaged in similar labour, beyond his strength, and no doubt brought on some internal injury, though it was not immediately perceptible. After holding the monthly prayer-meeting in the evening, he retired to rest, apparently as well as usual; but in the night he awoke in great pain, and had three violent attacks of hemorrhage. This was repeated several times during the day following, and as human aid was out of the question in this wilderness, we could only cast ourselves upon the care of our Heavenly Physician. During the two next days, he was somewhat better, and held the meetings in the morning and evening, though with a very weak voice. On the morning of the eleventh, he had a still more violent discharge. It was now clear to him, that the Lord was now about to call him home. He commissioned me to give his farewell salutation to the Mission-Board. and to his fellow-labourers at Paramaribo, and to thank them for their love and prayers on his behalf. He felt assured, he said, that our Saviour had forgiven him, and accepted his poor service. My course, he added, is containd in the words —

Here comes a sinner, who would fain
Through a Lamb's ransom entrance gain.

"He had nothing more to say of himself; he was an unprofitable servant, but the record of his sins had been blotted out by the precious blood of Christ. He had only to beg his Brethren, not

to leave Bambay too long unsupplied by his departure, that the work begun might not be interrupted.

"Meanwhile a number of Brethren had assembled. He gave John Arabi directions as to his coffin, the spot in the burial-ground where he wished his remains to be laid, with a tombstone over them similar to those on the graves of the early Missionaries who died at Bombey. He requested me, as soon as he was laid in the coffin, to have it conveyed into the Church, and expressed a wish that I would sing some verses in the evening meeting of the congregation in reference to his departure. Our Saviour, he said, would give me strength for the task. I was to remain here at all events, till his place should be supplied, hold meetings for reading and singing with the congregation, carry on the school as well as I could, and, by the Lord's help, keep the little flock together.— He begged his sisters not to mourn for him, as they would soon meet him again; but rather to thank the Lord, who had graciously heard his repeated prayer, and taken him first to Himself. — Speaking was difficlt to him, and he had to make frequent pauses while giving me these instructions. In the afternoon, the malady returned with renewed violence, and he lay exhausted, though free from pain. Meanwhile, a furious storm arose, followed by a terrible thunder-clap, which shook the whole building. The benches in the gallery were thrown down with the children sitting on them, who raised a cry of terror. The patient called from his bed to the numerous bystanders: 'Listen, the Lord is here! Let the children strike up a hymn!' which was accordingly done. — After repeated discharges of blood, the sufferer said: "I feel quite lightsome now; the Lord deals very graciously with me; I am not worthy of such love,' and tears almost choked his words. On each new attack, he commended himself to the best Physician of body and soul. His bodily eyes, indeed, were darkened by the disorder, but his soul was lighted up by his Redeemer's glory.— A peace unspeakable reigned over the numerous company, by which both house and gallery were filled; and this peace of God strengthened me also, and enabled me to bear my boundless grief with resignation. On a new seizure, the dear patient raised his folded hands, and repeated the verse—

Should not I for gladness leap,
Led by Jesus as his sheep?
For when these blest days are over,
To the arms of my dear Saviour,
I shall be conveyed to rest;
Amen, yea, my lot is blest.

"'Yes, dear Saviour', he continued, 'Thou knowest what Thou art doing; Thou knowest how often I have prayed Thee, if it might be, to spare me lingering illness at the last; Thou art now answering this prayer. Thou wilt not leave Thy work un-

finished, but wilt carry it gloriously through. Oh! how shall I praise Thee for all Thou hast done for me!' Tears interrupted his words, and, sinking down exhausted, he fell into a gentle slumber, till, towards midnight, he was awoke by another attack, which shook him severely. On recovering a little, his heart and mouth again overflowed with thanks for the mercy and love of the Saviour. His mind, too, was deeply engaged to the last in behalf of the little flock of believers, and of those also who were still wandering without the fold. Being alone with him, after another seizure, I knelt down by his bedside, and prayed the Lord for strength and succour in behalf of the poor sufferer and myself, imploring Him to stretch out His hand to His servant, as He did to Peter when the waves threatened to swallow him up, and bring him safely through the river of death. I rose from my prayer strengthened and comforted, and requested my dear husband, as a memento for the remainder of my journey through life, to open a few texts of Scripture for ourselves and our little flock. With a hand already benumbed by the icy grasp of death, he accordingly opened the following text for himself: 'I know whom I have believed; and I am persuaded, that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.' (2 Tim. i. 12.) For myself: 'Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak, for your works shall be rewarded.' (2 Chron. xv. 7.) For our Negro flock: 'Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your souls shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.' (Isaiah lv. 3.)

"Soon after 10 o'clock, he had a still more violent attack of hemorrhage, which completely exhausted him. Sensible that his end was drawing near, he said, 'My Saviour is hastening with His work, and I rejoice at it.'

Now His righteousness is found
My salvation's only ground;
Hence all my felicity
Springs here and eternally.

He then addressed Job and Johannes. After thanking them for the assistance which they had rendered him, he charged them with his last greeting to all the members of the flock, and added, that he had but one desire regarding them,—that they would remain faithful to the Lord, and not give way to the idea that they might relax their diligence, now there was no one to care for them; on the contrary, they ought now to draw closer than ever to each other and to the Lord, that so they might all meet him again before the throne of God. He also commissioned them to tell the heathen, especially those at Jenjen that it was his dying wish, that such as had hitherto slighted the call of God, inviting them to attend to the salvation of their souls, might yet be brought nigh, that he might not see them stationed with the lost on that great day of the Lord.

"The attacks still returning, he requested me to impart to him the blessing of the Lord for his departure, and to sing some Creole verses, which the Lord strengthened me to do. He then fell into an easy slumber, till another discharge of blood awoke him. He then folded his hands, and said, 'Now it will soon be over; soon, soon, shall I be yonder with my dear Saviour, and see His pierced side. Rejoice with me, we shall soon meet again!' He then begged the Negro brethren to refrain from any loud lamentation after his departure, for my sake; and they all promised to comply with his wishes. Shortly after midnight, the last effusion of blood took place, preceded by a severe struggle, owing to his extreme exhaustion, and his breathing now became more laboured. Job then addressed to him a last farewell in the name of all present, and spoke as follows: 'What shall I say? Sorrow fills my breast! My dear teacher, the love of Jesus impelled you to come hither to us poor creatures, and now you are leaving us. I wish, then in the name of us all, that our Saviour may reward you double for all the faithfulness which you have shewn us. Jesus, when dying for us on the cross, has smoothed the way which you have now to go. He will come to meet you, and lead you by the hand into His heavenly kingdom. Accept, once more, large thanks, dear teacher, from every one of us, for showing us the way to the Saviour, to His wounds and cross, for leading us on the way so far, that, now that you are taken from us, we can declare, with Peter, 'We will stay with Thee, O Jesus, for Thou hast the words of eternal life!' We will proceed upon this path; not one of us shall remain behind, until, according to your own word, we all meet together with you before the Lord. There may you see us all again, and rejoice with us eternally!" The dear patient was still sensible, and expressed his assent to it all, by nodding his head and a thrice repeated 'Yes;' and immediately after, he passed from faith to sight, a little before 1 o'clock on the morning of April 12th.

"Long before day-break, the whole congregation flocked to the corpse of their beloved teacher, and burst forth into loud weeping. Job did his utmost to assist and comfort me, but my sorrow was not to be restrained. When suddenly I seemed to hear a voice within: 'Weep not: I, the Lord will comfort thee, as one whom his mother comforteth.' All at once I felt myself lightened, and every weight was, for the time, taken from my heart. In the afternoon, the coffin was moved into the church, and placed opposite the table of the minister. In the evening according to his wish, I held a liturgical meeting with the congregation, during which the Lord gave me such a foretaste of the happiness of those who are at home with Him, that I quite forgot all earthly misery. Many of our people kept watch in the church all night, and edified themselves with singing hymns. Meanwhile, the heathen below at Jenjen were offering to their idols, firing their guns, and danc-

ing with frantic airs to the beat of drums, though they had been informed of what had taken place. On Sunday, April 19th, we prayed the Church-Litany. In the afternoon, at 2 o'clock, was the funeral, when in compliance with the wish of the departed, I gave out some verses, and held a short address to the congregation. Many heathen being present from Jenjen, and from the Matouri Saramakka river, Job took the opportunity to execute the commission given to him and his Brother, adding, that they might see from it how much the departed had loved them. They, in return, expressed their thankfulness, and joined themselves to the funeral procession. On arriving at the grave, Job prayed the Burial-Litany; after which he offered a fervent ex-tempore prayer, in which he implored the Lord that this grain, now sown in the earth, might hereafter yield a blessed harvest for the whole Bush country, and for Bambey especially, and that the testimony of His servant, which He had owned so graciously, might continue to bring forth abiding fruit, and spread throughout the land. His voice, during this prayer, was almost stifled by tears. A funeral love-feast followed, for which I had prepared sweet water and cassavi, and the Brethren John and Job now delivered to the congregation the farewell charge of their late pastor. I also read to them the Scripture passage which he had selected for them on his death-bed, as a testimentary remembrance of him, from Isa. lv. 3: —'Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.' A sweet feeling of the peace of God prevailed at this solemnity, and greatly mitigated the anguish of our loss.

"Another incident, too, occurred this evening, to cheer our spirits, and turn our sorrow into joy. A heathen woman, roused by a remarkable dream, had been led by it to come hither the preceding Sunday. After attending the preaching, she told her relatives here, that she could not stay here now, as she had to bid adieu to her gods, but she would certainly remove hither next Sunday. My husband heard of it, and rejoiced that the Good Shepherd was bringing in another wandering sheep, as a reward for the travail of His soul. She now made good her word, and, having solemnly renounced her idols, presented herself amongst us as a servant of the one true God."

The fellow-labourers of our late departed Brother still add the following:—

"Greatly as our late Brother was surprised, when he first received his call to the service of this Mission in the year 1830, yet he was no less cheerful and courageous when he obtained the inward conviction, that this was indeed the will of the Lord concerning him. And the Lord preserved to him an especial measure of this joyful confidence, throughout his whole course of service here. For he relied not on his own strength, but on the support

of Him who is mighty in the weak ; and therefore the Lord owned his service. Our late Brother faithfully put out to usury the talent entrusted to him. The love of Christ constrained him to invite others to the sinners's Saviour, and the long suffering which the Lord had manifested towards him enabled him to bear with patience the untowardness of the poor scattered Negro race, and always to hope the best. For the first six years of his Missionary service, he lived at Paramaribo ; he was then appointed to visit the plantations, and resided several years at Charlottenburg, on the Cottica, and afterwards at Worsteling Jacobs, on the Surinam. In February and March, 1840, he undertook a journey to the Free Bush Negroes of the Saramakka, from which he returned with a severe illness, and was long in regaining his strength.— Notwithstanding, when a station was to be established there, his wish to engage in this service was unabated ; and at the end of the same year, he arrived with his wife amongst the little flock of believers at Three Brothers, near Jenjen, which place was afterwards called Bambey."

What opposition this little flock has met with for years from the idolatrous and hostile Negroes ; what painful experience our late Brother had sometimes to make as to the baptized members themselves ; and through how many difficulties and sicknesses the Lord helped him and his dear partner, remote as they were from all human help, is too well known to our Brethren and Sisters and friends, from our Missionary Reports, to need particular notice here.

It was the desire of his soul to labour unto death in gaining souls for Jesus : and, till his latest breath, he was indefatigable in his endeavour and prayers on behalf both of the heathen and the flock already gathered. His sudden departure had been a severe shock to us ; but we cannot but heartily rejoice in the blessed translation which has been granted him ; while we would pray for a similar departure, as peaceful and joyful, for ourselves, whenever our time shall come, from Him, who, by His death, has destroyed him who had the power of death, and brought life and immortality to light.

His age was fifty-two years and nine months.

III. LABRADOR.

Extract of the Diary of Okkak, *from Aug.* 1844. *to Aug.*, 1845.

AUGUST.—A succession of dry weather for three weeks, was very favourable for harvesting our hay and drying our fishes. Most of our families had a store of 2000 haddocks, so that we

hoped, that, with good management, all of them would be preserved from actual want. The liver of this fish, however, yields but little oil, which is almost a necessary of life to the Exquimaux; and, as no seals were to be met with, they repaired in large parties to the rivers and ponds to catch salmon trout, which, eaten raw, they look upon as a very strengthening kind of food.

September.—The icebergs this month were of a larger size, than any we had seen for years. One of these colossal masses had grounded in fifty fathom water, yet still reared its head 100 feet above the surface of the sea. It brought with it a wintry atmosphere; the grass was blighted, and the snow no longer melted on the surrounding heights.

We celebrated the Lord's Supper with eighty-two of our people. A married Sister said at the previous speaking, "I am as one that often turns her back on Jesus; I have been indifferent to the voice of His good Spirit; but I am heartily sorry for it, and beg Him every day to forgive my sins, and grant me wisdom to bring up my children according to His mind. that I may appear before Him without fear at His coming." In general, we had reason to rejoice over their progress in the school of the Holy Ghost, and the artless manner in which they confessed their faults. Several of the Sisters who had quarrelled about trifles in the early part of the year, told us that they had sought pardon for it from the Lord, had felt His nearness, and been greatly ashamed of their folly, in cherishing unkind feelings and using harsh language towards each other, on account of the perishable objects of this earth.

Towards the end of the month, our rein-deer hunters returned home, having killed 140 head since the middle of August. It is a great pity, especially in a time of scarcity like the present, that the greater part of the flesh has to be wasted, as two quarters of a deer are a sufficient load for a dog, and even this can seldom be brought home while fresh.

October.—The declarations of our communicants at the monthly speaking, previous to their approach to the Lord's table, were again very pleasing. A married Sister said, when speaking of her daughter, who is yet far from being decided in her religious character, "When I call to mind my own youthful days, I no longer wonder at her; for I then heard and learnt the truths of Scripture, and thought that I understood them and lived according to them; but I now see, that I heard only with my ears, while my heart was deaf. I now wish to be thoroughly sanctified by God's Word." Another said, "Worldly thoughts keep coming into my mind, even when I least wish them; for I would gladly seek the things above, and I love them better. I was lately greatly comforted and edified by our Saviour's words—'*A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.*' I learnt to see from them, that no earthly posses-

sions could make me happy or righteous ; I will there seek after my Saviour's kingdom and righteousness, believing that He will grant me all that I really need." A widow who is employed in our kitchen said, "My outward wants are supplied, and I am envied by some of my neighbours ; but their praise and blame do not trouble me ; what gives me most concern is the pride of my own heart, and that I have learnt so little of our Saviour's meekness and humility. This is my besetting sin, and it is on this account that I fall so short of my Saviour's image."

19*th*.—Two of our young Brethren succeeded in harpooning and killing a walrus with its young,—a seasonable addition to their winter stores, for which they were exceedingly thankful. According to our Esquimaux, a good-sized walrus weighs about 1500 pounds.

December 1*st*.—All the inlets were frozen over, and our people eagerly embraced the opportunity for watching for seals at their breathing holes, but they had no better success than in former years. Most of our Esquimaux, too, engaged in the net-fishery at the outstations returned about this time empty-handed, the stormy weather having prevented their taking much more than was required for their daily sustenance. Altogether, there remained only 150 seals for nearly four hundred people, and one of these animals is consumed at a meal by a family of six or seven persons.*

On conversing with our people in reference to the ensuing enjoyment of the Holy Communion, a married Sister said, "I scarcely know what is to become of us during the long winter, as we have only two hundred haddocks left; but beg our Saviour to lay His blessing on this little store, and I am pursuaded that He can and will." Another, who has suffered much from gout for some months back, "My pains are often very great; but, when I think on what my Redeemer suffered, I am comforted. Day after day gets over, and I am thankful that I can still do a little in my family. My chief prayer to the Lord is, that He would make me ready for His appearing."

In the course of the month, our married people and children celebrated their memorial-days. A married Brother thus expressed himself at the speaking on this occasion:—"while I was still single, I had frequent opportunities of observing, that many a married couple lived unhappily together, and made each other miserable.—On entering into this state myself, I therefore begged the Lord to hold me and preserve me, and He has heard my prayer, and my wife and I live in harmony together, for which we are filled with thankfulness to the Lord, for it is His work, and not ours.

January 6*th*, 1845..—At the distance of two leagues from

* *It is to be presumed that one such meal suffices for the day.*

the settlement, the old ice had been broken up, and a new crust formed, which offered a very inviting opportunity for taking seals. We were therefore much surprised to see all our Esquimaux staying at home, especially as we knew that they were short of blubber, and that a large proportion of their dogs had already died of hunger. On our speaking with them on the subject, it appeared, that they had agreed together to remain here over the festival of *Epiphany*, and after seeking food for their souls, they would then, they said, take thought for their bodily wants. Accordingly they set out in their sledges on the 7th, traversing the thin ice in all directions, and, after a week's absence, brought home more than 160 seals. We joined them in heartfelt thanksgiving to the Father of mercies for this providential supply, which tended not a little to strengthen their confidence in God, as they saw in it an evident answer to their prayers.

Owing to the extreme cold, which was 35° below zero of Fahr., most of them returned with their faces severely frost bitten, and a youth had his feet frozen to such a degree, that he was lame for several days. He said, "When I found that my feet were getting stiff, I hastened to the snow-house for shelter, but had much difficulty to reach it. I plunged my feet into water, but this froze too, so that I saw nothing but death before my eyes. And now my concern for my soul took away all thought about my body. I wept and prayed to our Saviour for His grace, and remembering how He had manifested himself to me at the last participation of the Holy Communion, I was comforted, and could give up my relations and everything below. Not long after, I was found by some of our people, who brought me home on a sledge."

Several men who had gone farther south told us, that they had been one day in imminent danger, and had given up all hope of ever seeing us again. "We were on the ice," said one of the number, "looking out for the breathing-holes of the seal, when we perceived a sudden swell, and fled in haste to the nearest island. Night was coming on, and having caught nothing all day, we lay down supperless, hoping for better success in the morning. But what was our consternation, when day broke, to find that all the ice had broken up, and, the wind shifting to the west, been drifted out to sea. We had no boat of any description, and there appeared no prospect for us but to die of hunger. In this comfortless condition, we turned in prayer to the Lord, and towards noon, after long roving to and fro, one of our number described a narrow strip of ice stretching towards the nearest island, but whether it were connected with it, we could not tell. We ventured on it, however, in the name of the Lord, and happily gained the island, whence, by a long circuit, we made our way home, filled with gratitude to the Lord for His manifest preservation."

A few explanations with regard to the breathing-holes that have

been mentioned, gathered from the statements of our Esquimaux, may not be unacceptable. They are often no more than an inch in diameter at the surface, and would baffle the keenest eye, dispersed as they are over an immense surface of ice, were it not for a slight elevation in the thin covering of snow, produced by the frequent breathing of the animal. Each seal has a number of these apertures, all of which require to be watched. As soon as the Esquimaux perceives the water agitated in the hole, he strikes with his harpoon, and seldom misses the seal. The hole is then enlarged, and the seal drawn on the ice. The seals which remain under the ice throughout the winter are obliged to renew their holes every day, which would otherwise be presently frozen up, in ice from four to five feet thick. These apertures are about two feet in diameter below, narrowing like a funnel upwards. Such seals, when taken in the spring, are generally found without nails on their fore-paws, owing to their incessant scraping of the ice. Should a single hole be left unguarded, the party may lose their whole day's labour, for the seal has a sharp sense of hearing, and perceives the slightest motion. This mode of seal-catching can only be used on new ice, as it is impossible to discover the holes where much snow is lying.

On the 19th, we celebrated our congregation-festival with blessing. On the 25th, our single brethren and youths, to the number of fifty-four, had their memorial-day. We were much gratified, on conversing with them in reference to this solemnity, to hear that it was their earnest desire to live in a manner well pleasing to the Lord; and, as we have witnessed nothing inconsistent with these declarations during their winter's residence with us, we trust that the Lord, according to our prayers, is carrying on the work of His good Spirit in their hearts.

February 2nd.—Our widow's choir, seventeen in number, celebrated a cheerful festival, the joy of which was enhanced by the distribution of several quarts of peas, which we had received through the kindness of an anonymous friend in Germany. Tears of gratitude flowed down their wrinkeled cheeks. "Old and poor as we are," they exclaimed, "yet we have friends who love us, and send us presents. May the Lord richly reward them; and He who hears the prayer of the widow and the orphan will not leave ours unanswered."

March 5th.—A father of a family called upon us with his wife, and told us how his mind had been exercised with doubts regarding the wisdom of the Lord's dealings. He had been reduced to extremity with his family, he stated, and had lost several of his dogs. He had begged the Lord to prosper his exertions, and a few days back had killed a walrus with young, for which he was sincerely grateful. But while engaged in cutting up his body, a shaking of the ice alarmed him, and he hastened to land with as much flesh as he could carry in his hands, on which he and his

family made a cheerful meal. In the morning, they were shocked to see the ice piled up in hummocks, and every trace of their walrus obliterated. This was a severe trial of his faith. 'But I found,' said he, "on reflection, that there was still much evil in my heart I could not part with, and therefore my walrus has been plucked out of my hands. I greatly needed its flesh, but our Saviour has done more to gain my soul. I see now how needful it is first of all to beg Him to cleanse that from all evil, and then I believe He will give me what is necessary for my bodily wants."

The weather was at this time extremely changeable, and the thermometer varied thirty degrees in as many hours. Hence many of our people were attacked by rheumatism, a malady which is becomming daily more prevalant among them. Indeed it often gives us no small concern to see, that while the climate remains the same as ever, the constitutions of our Esquimaux are growing more tender, and few of our young men are as hardy as the old.

We had again much edifying conversation with our communicants, previous to their participation of the Lord's Supper on the 20th. The father of a family, who had formerly been one of the wealthiest Esquimaux on the whole coast, possessing from eighteen to twenty dogs, and a boat of his own, but was now reduced to poverty, said to us, with tears in his eyes, "I am a poor wretch, unworthy to come into your house, for my sins are numberless. It is my sins which distress me, and not my poverty, greatly as I and my family are reduced; for I am more and more convinced that all my labour and exertion is in vain, and my game flies from me, as if it knew that I was the greatest of sinners. Would but the Lord forgive me my sins, cold and hunger would be nothing to me." We told him that our Saviour received such as felt in this manner, for in such only could He get him glory,—that He came to call sinners to repentance,—not the righteous, nor those who say, "The Saviour loves sinners, therefore we must sin, or He will not love us." "Yes," he rejoined, "I know of such, but I will not cease to beg Him to receive me, poor and needy as I am."

Towards the end of the same month, the haddock made its appearance, which, though a watery kind of food, was very welcome to many of our people, who began to be pinched with hunger; and we, too, were glad to see it on our table occasionally, in place of the salt meat stored up for six years, to which we had been obliged to have recourse since the beginning of the month.—All land animals seem this year to have vanished, and our hunters constantly return with empty pouches, declaring that every living thing,—hares, foxes, partridges,—have all died out.

In the beginning of May, Joseph, a young married brother, the eldest son of the well-known Benjamin, was brought home from the rein-deer hunt in an apparently dying state. He had been failing for years, but the immediate occasion of his illness was his

having eaten of venison in a frozen state, on the invitation of his friends, though against his own judgment. He would gladly have had his life prolonged, but he submitted to the will of the Lord, and spent his few remaining days in fervent prayers for mercy. We frequently visited him according to his request, and were thankful to observe, that the Holy Spirit was active in freeing his heart from the love of earthly things, and leading him to depend alone on God's free grace. "The Lord knows," he said, "that I have often led a bad life, and deliberately grieved Him. My only comfort is, that I know that He has died for me, and washed me from my sins in His blood. Oh! great is the mercy He has shewn to me, a poor wretched sinner! I shall never be able to thank Him for it sufficiently." He repeatedly begged his numerous relatives, who all came in from their distant stations to see him, to make a better use of their opportunities than he had done, and to prepare for their last summons. On the 13th, the day of his death, he said to them, "Weep no more for me, for I am going to my Saviour;" and with these words on his lips, he breathed his last, at the age of thirty-two years.

His widow remarked to us, how thankful she now felt that she had no fatherless children to provide for. "Henceforth," said he, "I will be contented with my Saviour's ways, and no longer ask, why I have no children, while others have so many."

On the 30th, a malignant bilious fever broke out amongst our Esquimaux, just after we had heard of the fatal epidemic at Hopedale.

June 14th, departed a boy of twelve years of age, the first victim of the fever. He was followed on the 16th by Abel, the father of a family, in the prime of life. He had been distinguished for faithfulness in his calling, and for a Christian walk and conversation. Scarcely a sledge now arrived which did not take out medicines for the sick, the epidemic being rife in the whole neighbourhood, especially to the northward. Out of two families of ten persons each, who had been brought hither from that quarter, two persons of one family had now departed, and seven, out of the remaining eight, were still lying sick, in a room ten feet long, filled besides with various pans and vessels, and a locker for fish and blubber. An old widow was their sick-waiter. In the other tent, were six patients, with no attendant whatsoever, so that the whole burden fell on us, unless we could allow them to perish in their misery, or expose those who were yet sound and healthy to the infection, by hiring them as sick-waiters.

One of the sick, a single sister, was reduced to so pitiable a condition, that we felt constrained to remove her to our own house. Her body was already worm-eaten, besides which she was overrun with vermin to such a degree that the very Esquimaux were afraid to touch her. As the poor patients could not bear the cus-

tomary Esquimaux diet, large requisitions were made on our own store, for we could not suffer them to starve.

In the latter part of the month, a cold sea-breeze prevailed for some days, accompanied with rain, which aggravated the sufferings of the sick, as their tattered tents were far from being weather-proof.

July 1*st*, one of the afflicted families lost their last surviving son, a youth of fifteen, who went off very suddenly at last. The parents, who were both lying very ill at the time, were greatly distressed by this bereavement. Some days before his departure, he had been deeply concerned for his soul, and several times expressed his fears that he should not be saved. When our Saviour was pointed out to him as full of love and compassion, and mighty to save, he replied, "Yes, but I have grieved Him by my disobedience." He was enabled, however, to take courage, and to call on Him for mercy, so that, as we were told, he departed very happily.

On the 4th, Barbara, an aged widow, died of natural decay; she was forty-six years old when she came to us from the north with her two sons, desiring to be converted; but she was long hampered by the heathenish customs to which she had been inured. But the Lord was evidently leading her to a knowledge of her spiritual condition. Often did she exclaim, "Oh, that the Lord would have mercy on my soul! I am like a lump of ice, I am so cold: I have no love to Him, though He is daily bestowing blessings on me. How can I be enabled to live to His pleasure!" A theft, of which she had been guilty many years ago, when she had secreted a lamp under a large stone, though, being very uneasy about it afterwards, she had never appropriated it, now lay like a weight on her conscience, and she confessed the fact to one of our number who was visiting her. She was greatly comforted, when assured that the Lord would forgive her for this sin also. She had been a communicant since the year 1835, and shewed great faithfulness in what was intrusted to her.

We this week took the altitude of the adjoining Sonnenkube, a hill whose summit may be gained in less than hour's walk from our dwelling, and found it to be 1262 feet. In winter, when the atmosphere is clear, its peak serves us for a meridian line, and we set our watches by it.

At the close of the year 1844, the congregation at Okkak consisted of 170 communicants, 62 baptized adults, and 155 baptized children, making, with 8 excluded persons, a total of 395 under our care.

F. Knauss, G. Herzberg, Aug. Freitag,
F. Martin, I. A. Miertsching.

FROM HOPEDALE.

"HOPEDALE, *July 30th.*

"The Lord hath ever to His flock
Kept without separation;
He doth abide our shield and rock,
Our peace, and our salvation.
He leads us with a mother's care,
Protects from danger, guards from fear:
Give to our God the glory."

"Such, dear Brethren, were the feelings and sentiments which pervaded our breasts, when, on the afternoon of the 21st of July, we descried on the distant horizon the ship Harmony, and beheld her pursuing her wonted course into our haven; and yet more fervent was our gratitude to the Lord, when, on the following morning, we saw her cast anchor near our settlement, and were permitted shortly after to welcome Br. and Sr. Ribbach, Br. Elsner, Captain Sutherland, and the whole ship's company. Graciously, indeed, has the Lord heard and answered the prayers of His people on behalf of our missionary vessel, now for upwards of three quarters of a century,—a token of His favour, which we desire with yourselves, who have ever taken so lively an interest in the prosperity of this Mission, most thankfully to acknowledge. Were we but enabled to prove our thankfulness to Him, by devoting to His service all our powers, whether of mind or body. Thus far we can declare to the praise of the glory of His grace: He has borne with all our defects and infirmities, and given us to feel that we are still the objects of His love. His long-suffering continues to be our salvation.

"Your continued interest in this Mission, and sympathy with its servants, have been manifested, not only in the abundant provision which you have again made for our temporal wants, but also by remarks and communications relative to various subjects affecting the progress of the kingdom of God and the well-being of our own dear Church, which your annual letter contained, and which tended not a little to encourage us to go forward boldly on the path of duty which is open to us on the coast of Labrador.

"We were deeply affected by the intelligence of the departure of your esteemed colleague, Count Henry the 55th Reuss. In him we too have lost a valued friend and brother, whose affectionate and fraternal interest in all our concerns endeared him to us greatly, while we honoured him for his devotedness to the Church, with whose members he had early cast in his lot, and for his long and faithful service within her borders.

"We were greatly interested to hear of the intended establishment by our Mission-Board of a Training-school in the West Indies, from which we confidently anticipate the most beneficial results to our numerous Negro congregations. How thankful should

we be for the prospect of being enabled to set on foot a similar institution for the benefit of the Esquimaux race! But at present the difficulties in the way of it appear to be insurmountable.

"With reference to ourselves and our Esquimaux congregations, we may declare, that our humble and devout thanksgivings are due to our gracious Lord, for the goodness, protection, and kind leading which we have experienced from His Almighty hand. Not only has He bestowed upon us the blessing of health, and many other temporal mercies, but He has also, during the progress of a winter of a scarcity, more severe than has been known for many years on this coast, granted to our Esquimaux such a supply of food, as enabled them to relieve, in some measure, the distress of their yet more suffering fellow-countrymen at Nain and elsewhere. At the same time, we were favoured to observe, that, notwithstanding the many faults and deficiencies with which both ourselves and our flock were justly chargeable, the fruits of righteousness were produced in the hearts of not a few of the people committed to our care. Many who were concerned about the state of their souls came to us, seeking comfort, encouragement, and instruction; others who had learnt to know themselves as sinners, and were evidently under the teaching of the Holy Spirit, solicited an advance in the privileges of the Church, or humbly petitioned for restoration to them. Thus, we had the pleasure to receive three persons into the congregation, and to admit a like number to the Lord's table, while four were re-admitted to Church fellowship; yet, notwithstanding these pleasing circumstances, we have great reason to exclaim on our own and our people's behalf, 'Enter not, O Lord, into judgment with thy servants, for in Thy sight no man living shall be justified!'

"On the 17th of November, 1845, our schools were re-opened: they were divided into two classes, according to age and proficiency, the younger being held in the fore, the elder in the afternoon; and, on the whole, we can give our pupils the testimony, that they attended with regularity, and made satisfactory progress. Besides instruction in reading, writing, and Christian doctrine, the elder children received lessons in cyphering and geography; and though the latter were altogether elementary, it was a pleasure to us to find, that, by means of them, the minds of our pupils were opened and the range of their knowledge somewhat extended. At the examination, they answered the questions put to them, for the most part, with correctness and rapidity, and the parents shared the pleasure which this exhibition afforded us. The large map of Europe, lately presented to us by a kind friend in London, continues to be of the greatest service. The natural inapitude of the Esquimaux for every scientific or intellectual pursuit, makes it very important, that they should be furnished, as far as possible, with representations of every subject described, and we were therefore thankful for the map of North America,

which has just been added to our small store by the friend already referred to, to whom we beg to offer our very grateful acknowledgements. The children will obtain by means of it a better idea of their own country.

"Among the departures which have taken place during the year, we would particularly notice the last, namely, that of the married brother Manasseh. He was a robust young man, thirty-five years of age, who, after being actively employed the whole year through in seal-catching, came hither in the beginning of July, in his kayak, intending to return with his boat and fetch his family. Though tired and ailing on his arrival, when he found that his brother was making use of his boat, he set out in his kayak in quest of seals, but soon returned in a very exhausted state. In the course of a few days his illness assumed an alarming character, and it was evident that his end was approaching. He was visited several times on his sick-bed, and admonished to turn to Jesus, the only Saviour, which he promised to do. Though he expressed his desire to be spared a few years longer, he shewed great resignation to the Lord's will, and simple trust in His mercy. We would gladly have detained him among us, for his Christian walk and conversation, his uprightness of heart, and his constant readiness to help the poor and needy, endeared him greatly to us, and he had been recently appointed to the office of chapel-servant. To his large family of five young children, and to several orphan-children for whom he cared, his continuance here below seemed almost indispensable. The Lord, however, saw fit to call him home on the 17th of July.

"We were very thankful to the Lord, that He afforded us health and strength for the erection of a new boat-house, in the course of last autumn, wherby we also obtained a place for stowing away the timber and boards which we require for our carpentry work. Meanwhile we look forward, not without anxiety and concern, to the re-building of our old and inconvenient dwelling-house, which, whenever taken in hand, will be a work of considerable time, labour, and expense. The Lord will, however, as we trust, help, as in seasons past.

"Our gardens last year yielded us abundant produce; our potatoes were uncommonly large and fine, and of cabbage and salad and lettuce, with white and yellow turnips, we had a good supply. We were also visited by an unusual number of snipes and ripper, which not only improved the quality of our food, but also tended materially to the preservation of our health.

Br. and Sr. Barsoe were rejoiced, on the 26th of June, by the birth of a daughter, and Br. and Sr. Albrecht by that of a son, on the 2nd of July. Both mothers and children are thus far doing well.

"Our Esquimaux were rather short of food the whole winter, owing to the failure of the seal-hunt. Though they did not suffer

absolute want, most of them having secured a good supply of fish, they would have been seriously enfeebled in health and strength had we not been able to furnish them with a quantity of blubber out of the store. Through the kindness of a benevolent friend in Lancashire, we were enabled to deal to every family a quantity of pease on the 8th of April, to the joy and gratitude of all. In the spring of the present year, they have been pretty successful in seal-catching, and most of them have been able to pay the debts they have contracted. We were truly glad to obtain, through the kindness of the Bible Society, some portions of the New Testament in different Indian languages, by means of which we may hope to have some intercourse with any Indians who may hereafter visit us. None came near us the whole of last year.

"In conclusion, dear Brethren, we beg to commend ourselves and our dear but imperfect Esquimaux flock to your faithful intercessions at the Throne of Grace, and to assure you that we cease not to remember your work of faith and labour of love, and to entreat our gracious Lord to bless and reward you abundantly.

"John C. Beck, "C. G. Albrecht,
"Christian Barsoe, "T. C. F. Andreæ."

Nain, August 10th.

"Dear Brethren,

"We thank you cordially for your kind letter, addressed to our several Mission-Conferences, the varied contents of which we perused with much interest. On a review of the occurrences of the past year, which has been to us and our Esquimaux flock a season of no ordinary pressure, we feel constrained to humble ourselves at the feet of our gracious Lord, in remembrance of our many mistakes and infirmities; at the same time that we thank Him, with fervency of spirit, for the comfort and help which He has vouchsafed to us under the severest trials. In the midst of these, He enabled us to press forward in His name, and earnestly to invite sinners to be reconciled to God. Amid all imperfections, the government of the Lord and the operation of His Spirit were plainly perceptible among us: yet there has been no lack of distressing occurrences which have severely tried our faith: the tares have, indeed seemed to spring up among the wheat in greater profusion than ever; and the noxious fruit have already become perceptible, as you will learn from our diary. The injury that is done to the souls of our Esquimaux by the Southlanders visiting our neighbourhood is too great to be denied; and we continually witness, to our sorrow, the ruinous consequences which it entails upon those of our people who yield to their influence. These people

act as if they wish to be considered the patrons of murder, adultery, fornication, theft, and every other evil work, which it is our constant endeavour to repress. Through their influence, two whole families separated themselves last winter from our Church, and of several others we stand in doubt whether they will ever return to us. We are grieved to the heart, as you may believe, when we observe that the field which, for more than seventy years, our esteemed predecessors and ourselves have cultivated with so much care and pains, and which in many respects, had begun to look like the garden of the Lord, is, more or less, laid waste by means of the mischevious proceedings and insidious acts of persons making a profession of Christianity and civilization. Meanwhile, we know not what to do, but to commit the case, in prayer, to the Lord Himself, beseeching Him that He would preserve, by His grace, those who still remain faithful, and, in His own good time and way, deliver the poor straying sheep out of the hand of the spoiler. To the praise of His name, we can still, however, testify, that we have some faithful souls among our people, who are intent on pleasing Him, and walking worthy of the grace which they have received, giving all diligence to make their calling and election sure. Among the circumstances of encouragement which we are permitted to record, may be mentioned the diligent attendance of the majority of our people at the house of God, and of their children on the day-school, from which the latter were scarcely ever absent without necessity. The children gave us much pleasure by their diligence and good conduct; the more advanced made good progress, and even the youngest showed eagerness in learning.

"In temporals, our Mission-family was more abundantly provided for than in some former years. Our gardens yielded a good return of potatoes and other vegitables, for which we were truly thankful to our Heavenly Father; as also for the occasional supplies of fresh meat which we obtained.

"With our Esquimaux, the case was widely different: to them the winter proved one of the severest ever known in regard to the supply of necessaries of life. The seal-hunt proved an entire failure; few seals were caught either in nets or upon the ice, or by the use of the *hayak*, so that by the month of January the want of provision began to be oppressively felt. The joyful Christmas season, the festivals of the married people and the children, and that of Epiphany, were celebrated with nearly the whole of our congregation; but by the middle of January those of them who had been spending the summer and autumn with the Southland traders, and thus been induced to neglect the cod-fishery, were compelled to take their refuge to the trout-pools, to save themselves from absolute starvation. Many who, perhaps, had not conducted themselves much better, but who felt confidence towards us, came to us with petitions for help, and many promises of a-

mendment, and received such assistance as we could afford them. The consequence was, that while those who remained at the settlement were preserved from absolute starvation, several of those who left us in search of food actually died of want. That the cargo which we are enabled to send home to you falls so very far short of that of average years, we know will distress you far less than the circumstances which have occasioned it. The winter was but moderately cold, the thermometer having once fallen as low as 24° below Zero Fahrenheit, and the weather becoming tolerably mild as early as March. During the period of distress already described, the gifts of our benevolent friends in England, Wurtemberg, and Herrnhut were of the greatest service to our suffering population, and helped to provide many a poor starving family with meal. To all these kind benefactors we beg to return the warmest thanks of our people, as well as our own. It is scarcely possible for them to have an idea of the distress, of which we are witnesses at such seasons.

"On the 25th of February, Br. and Sr. Vollprecht were rejoiced by the birth of a son, who received in baptism the name of Gastavus Louis: they are expected shortly to leave us for Hopedale, our Mission-family having been joined by Br. and Sr. Ribbach and Br. Elsner.

"During the past year, sixteen children were born and baptized at Nain, and thirteen persons departed this life. Two were received into the congregation; on the other hand, twenty have forsaken our fellowship. The congregation consists of 289 persons.

"On the 7th of August, we had the joy to welcome the Harmony, and our new fellow-servants. For the very acceptable presents of various useful articles received from our many kind British friends. We return our grateful acknowledgements. May the Lord reward the benevolent donors!

"Commending the ship and company to the gracious protection of the Lord, and beseeching you to remember us, and our poor Esquimaux flock, in your prayers, we remain ever your faithful and affectionate Brethren,

"John Lundberg, J. T. Vollprecht,
"Fr. Erdman."

Okkak, August 18th.

"Dear Brethren,

"The lapse of another year reminds us once again to consider the way by which the Lord has led us, and to recount all the goodness, long-suffering, and faithfulness which we have experienced at His hands. To our merciful Saviour we would give all the glory of

whatever has been performed through our feeble instrumentality: self-complacency, and every other selfish feeling, we would banish from our breasts. The inquiry, who shall be greatest among us, we would not permit to enter our minds, for we feel and know that we have but one Master, even Christ, and that we are all brethren. But to that gracious Master, what thanks are due, that He has deigned to call us into His service, and to use us as instruments for the performance of His work. Such thoughts and feeling were especially excited within our breasts when we perused, in fellowship, your kind and interesting circular. From its contents we learnt, that the powers of darkness are labouring not only in our dear native land, but also throughout Europe, to destroy the heritage of the Lord. May the admonitions of our Saviour 'Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation,' be deeply impressed upon our minds and memories! and may we, who are called to be the soldiers of the cross in heathen lands, be found standing upon our watch continually, and doing our duty as faithful sentinels, whom our great Captain has appointed to give due notice of the approach of the foe! That this is the character which we bear also in this distant and secluded region, we are made daily sensible. We have, indeed, great need of watchfulness, as well as of constancy, lest, while we are slumbering, the enemy should rush in like a flood, and hurt, or even destroy, those who seemed to have been rescued out of his hands.

"The letter of our dear Brethren of the Mission-Board was also a great encouragement to us, as it reminded us to continue faithfully to proclaim the word of the cross, and to seek, through the gracious aid of the Holy Spirit, to apply it to the hearts and consciences, not only of such as were still in the bondage of sin, but also of such as have been delivered from it, and now constitute a living, however imperfect, family of Christ. The Lord has, indeed, done much for this poor people. There is a great difference between those who are under our care, and their countrymen who have been brought up in heathenism. Of this we have been anew convinced by the visit of a young heathen, about twenty years of age, who came from Nachvah to see his mother's brother, residing in our place. Through ignorant and dull of apprehension as to spiritual things, he felt an internal impulse to travel hither, a distance of 240 miles, and to see the believers who had a Saviour. Having received permission to reside here, he showed great willingness to walk according to the instruction given him; and we have good hopes that he will attain to the true knowledge of his fallen state, and of that Saviour, whom to know is life eternal.—It is our earnest desire and prayer, that the whole Esquimaux nation may become the property of Jesus; but we see, alas! that, as it was in our Saviour's days, many are led to seek Him and His people for the sake of the loaves and the fishes; but when they are commanded to forsake the world, to deny themselves,

and to take up their cross, they find this a hard saying: for 'Many are called, but few are chosen.'

"Of our Esquimaux congregation, we may declare, that, during the past year they have heard the word of God gladly, and that the Lord has owned the testimony of His servants concerning Himself and His salvation. In many of our services, both public and private, His presence was powerfully felt; and on sacramental and festal occasions, which were numerously attended, deep emotion not unfrequently prevailed.

"With the members of our congregation we have occasionally interesting and instructive conversations, which help to throw light upon the past and present state of the heathen around us. Not long ago, a woman, who had been brought up in heathenism, said to me, 'When I was young, I often trembled when I heard that there is a place where the wind always rages, where the cold is extreme, where few seals are to be found, where clothes soon fall to pieces, and where people suffer hunger. I feared that I should come into such a place; but now I understand these things better; and it is my earnest desire to attain to that place of blessedness, which Jesus has gained for sinners by His life, sufferings, and death.' Last winter, we had to make many painful experiences with our people, of whom we had to exclude six for immorality of various kinds; among these was our organist, who had committed an act of petty theft, which we could not pass over. Among the children, too, we have been pained by the discovery of much depravity.

"Owing to the deficiency of food, many Esquimaux families left us in March, so that our Passion and Easter-services were more thinly attended than ever before. Though many had to suffer severely from hunger, our Heavenly Father sent relief in due season, and did not permit any of our people to suffer absolute want of the necessaries of life.

"The schools re-commenced on the 20th of October, and were afterwards attended by about 130 children, whose progress generally gave us pleasure. Fifteen of our writing scholars have learnt to write an excellent hand. Our school is always opened with singing and prayer, and it is well attended by many, though, we are sorry to say, not by all our pupils. The small celestial and terrestrial globes were very acceptable to us; and we beg to return our best thanks for them. We can assure our friends, that it is our earnest desire to bring our pupils forward, and to instruct them in every branch of knowledge that may be useful to them.

"During the last year, the blessing of health has been in general vouchsafed to us and our flock, for which we desire to express our thankfulness to the Lord. The winter which was by no means severe, has been followed by a warm spring and summer. By an unexpected frost, which occurred between the 21st and 22nd of July, our potatoes have, however, suffered severely.

"Our dear Brother Martin being compelled by the failing state of his health, to visit Europe, we commend him affectionately to your brotherly kindness and sympathy, and remain ever your affectionate Brethren,

F. Knauss, G. Herzberg,
F. Martin, T. A. Miertsching,
Aug. Freitag.

"Hebron, August 26, 1846.

"Dear Brethren,

We perused with much interest the allusions in your kind letters, to the movements which are everywhere taking place in the professing Church of Christ, and especially those which have been attended with such striking results on the continent of Europe. It is our fervent prayer to the Lord, that He would raise up among those who still maintain His saving truth, men of zeal, and gifts, and power, through whose instrumentality, He may be pleased, as at the period of the Reformation, to give the victory to His true followers, and make His own blessed cause everywhere triumphant. Meanwhile it is a comfortable thought, that the Lord knoweth them that are His, and that He keepeth them in all dangers and trials, as the apple of His eye."

"Concerning ourselves and our Esquimaux flock, we are bound to declare, with thankfulness, that during the progress of another year, we have experienced the help and blessing of the Lord. At the commencement of the winter, the prospect before us was sufficiently gloomy, owing to the prevailing dearth of provisions;—but our Heavenly Father looked in mercy upon His suffering children, and sent them relief in the time of their greatest need. — Though a few seals had been taken in nets, the efforts of our Esquimaux to capture them in the ordinary way were so far successful towards the close of the past and beginning of the present year, that they obtained what was sufficient to keep themselves and their families. Few foxes or rein-deer were, however, taken; and from this cause, and the deficient supply of seals, many of our people were but ill-provided with clothing. As the spring advanced, the number of seals caught was considerable, and the pressure of want was thus effectually relieved. It was a great mercy that the winter was less severe than usual. Aged persons, and even children, were thus enabled to find employment on the sea-shore in fishing, and to assist in the maintenance of their respective families. Last autumn, our gardens were unusually productive; so that we had not only vegetables sufficient for our own consumption, but were also enabled to distribute a portion among our Es-

quimaux : this year the prospect of a good return is but indifferent. The potatoes in particular look very unpromising ; but we are prepared to receive with thankfulness whatever our gracious Lord is pleased to send us.

" We regret to be obliged to inform you, that the past year has been one of trial to us in regard to the spiritual course of our congregation, as well as in reference to its temporal circumstances.— Not only have we been obliged to exclude several for transgressions of the Divine law, more or less serious, but we have also been constrained to expel several individuals, who had been implicated in a heinous crime, by which, as you may believe, we have been greatly humbled and distressed. The dwellers at this place have decreased during the past year, by the number of nineteen persons, some of whom have had to be dismissed, while others have removed to Sœglek of their own accord.

" Yet, trying to our spirits as were these experiences, we were cheered from time to time by evident traces of the work of the Spirit of God on the heart of many, both old and young ; and our weak faith was often put to shame, by the proofs which we discovered of the power of the word of the cross, upon such as received it with gladness. We have been convinced, that also in this flock, there are many sincere and upright souls, whose object it is to walk worthy of their high calling, and to give pleasure to Him whose followers they profess to be. The circumstance which has caused us the deepest anxiety, has been the discovery of traces of deep depravity among some of our young people, the fruit, in part, of the very defective moral training which they receive at home. The demeanour of others has meanwhile testified, that the instruction and admonitions which they are continually receiving, have not been bestowed on them, in vain. The schools have been generally well attended, and the progress of the children in learning has afforded us satisfaction. At the yearly examination, it was truly gratifying, both to ourselves and their parents, to observe the readiness with which they brought forth out of the treasury of the Word of God, the many precious truths which they had learned from its pages. We have also had the pleasure to receive back into the fold during the past year, several of the sheep who had wandered from it, and who seemed to return with all their heart.

" We were visited at different times, by heathen from various places, more or less distant from us : two boats' companies came from Nachvah and Sœglek ; and fourteen sledges brought us visitors from other parts of the coast, to all of whom we proclaimed the word of salvation. In the course of the winter, our faithful National helper, Renatus, paid a visit to his heathen countrymen at Sœglek, but we regret to add, that he found no ears open to the Gospel-message.

" Our Esquimaux have been mercifully preserved from epidemic

diseases, but our Mission-family has been visited with serious attacks of illness. The child, Amelia Glitsch, was brought at one time to the very verge of the grave; and, shortly after, her dear mother became so seriously indisposed, that she was for several weeks incapable of attending to her duties. Nor did this domestic visitation terminate here, Br. Glitsch himself having experienced so violent an attack of cholic that his recovery was for some time doubtful. We are thankful to say that he is now restored to nearly his wonted state of health.

"In conclusion, we beg to commend ourselves and our whole congregation to your sympathy and intercession at the Throne of Grace, and we remain,

"Your faithful and affectionate Brethren,

"Zach. Glitsch.
"Jon. Mentzel,
"Casper Schœtt."

IV. GREENLAND.

New Herrnhut, June 26th, 1846.

Dear Brother,

"Your kind letter of the 26th of March reached my hands on the 30th of May. It found us engaged in the joyful celebration of the Festival of Witsuntide, with the great subject of which its contents were sufficiently in harmony, to induce me to communicate them at once to our assembled Mission-family. While perusing it, we were anew impressed with the importance and blessedness of our calling, to gain souls also in this desolate region for the Lamb of God, who shed His blood to purchase them; and of our close union of spirit with all, of every name and nation, who are engaged in similar service throughout the earth. We found on a review of the Lord's dealings with us and our Greenland flock during the year that has passed, abundant cause to thank Him for His gracious help vouchsafed to us in every time of need, and for the blessing which He has laid upon our feeble testimony of His love unto death, whereby some souls, we trust, have been brought out of darkness into His marvellous light, and others have been established in His faith and fear. Though we have yet abundant cause to sigh over the defects still observable among our people, we cannot but esteem ourselves more highly favoured than our fellow-labourers in more civilized lands, inasmuch as we have not to do with scoffers and despisers of the Divine Word, and such as will not have Christ to reign over them,—classes of men with whom Christendom seems so to abound, that we feel truly concerned for those who have to live among them. If there are still

such in our congregation, who yield to the seducing influence of sin and the suggestions of their own corrupt hearts, we do not see them going abroad with proud and presumtious bearing, but rather with distressed hearts and troubled conciences; and such wanderers from the right way we often find willing, in the day of their visitation, to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd, and to manifest that true repentance which causes joy among the angels of Heaven.

"You express a wish in your letter that the Word of Christ may dwell among us richly. In answer I would say,—come and see for yourself, and visit in the houses of our people, especially during the winter: you would find that not only the young people attending the school are well supplied with copies of the New Testament, but also the fathers of families generally; so that in every house, there is at least one copy—not to mention other edifying books which have been printed for their use. Our stock of Testaments is, indeed, as you suppose, reduced very low, so that as soon as Br. V. Müller has completed his revision of the existing text, we shall be thankful to avail ourselves of the British and Foreign Bible Society to obtain a new edition.

"You seem to have too low an idea of the knowledge of Scripture possessed by our Greenlanders: it is indeed very different in different individuals, but I could wish you once to hear and understand a discourse delivered by one of our native assistants, and to have an opportunity of observing, how well, and sometimes strikingly, they quote the words of our Saviour and His Apostles.—You would, I am sure, be overcome by feelings like those which we often experience, and not be able to refrain from tears; at the same time that you would be truly edified, and disposed to thank the Lord, for what He has done for this people. The greatest disadvantage to which they are subjected, is connected with the dispersion of a considerable number of the out-stations. We continue, however, to indulge the hope, that this will gradually cease, the charm of a wandering life being to many no longer what it was, and the managers of the Factory finding themselves disappointed in the results of this arrangement to their traffic.

"The summer of last year proving a very wet one, our labours and occupations of all kinds were rendered proportionably difficult: indeed it was not without the greatest exertions, that we could collect the necessary supply of wood for fuel. The Greenlanders, also, were greatly hindered in the reindeer-hunt, which, in consequence, turned out very unproductive. The drying of both flesh and fish was rendered next to impossible, owing to the continued rains; and had it not pleased God to send us a mild winter after the wet summer, there would have been great suffering among our people. To some of the more necessitous, and especially to widows and orphans, we dispensed a portion of the fund, which the benevolence of our British friends has again plac-

ed at our disposal, and for which we beg to return the warmest thanks to the generous donors, in our own name and that of our whole flock. For their generous consideration of our own necessities, we are also most grateful to them. As often as we enjoy the comfort of a well-warmed room, we are reminded of the dear Christian friends in Britain, whose annual supplies of coal have secured to us this alleviation of the rigours of an arctic winter.

"During the past year, we had the grief to lose *three* of our Greenland Brethren, two married and one single, who perished at sea; one of the former had been appointed a native assistant but a few days before his death, and promised to be a very efficient one: he has left behind him six young children, for whom during his life-time, he faithfully cared. It is a mournful and remarkable circumstance, that the last few years have seen not a few of the ablest and most approved Greenland Brethren taken from us; so that we begin to be at a loss for suitable candidates for the office of national helper. The single Brother above referred to was nineteen years of age, has been well educated, and was the only son of his father. Sometimes we are tempted to ask our Lord, why He thus deals with us; but we restrain our natural feelings, under the conviction, that He doeth all things well, and that He is able even of the stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

"I would still mention, that, on the 16th of October, 1847, we purpose celebrating a centenary anniversary of the opening of our church. May the Lord grant it to be a time of refreshing from His presence, and an occasion for the renewal of our covenant, to live to Him, and serve Him with zeal and faithfulness!"

From Br. J. F. D. Tietzen.

"Dear Brother,

"The remarks in your letter on the subject of our Greenland National Assistants, and of the education of the Greenlanders generally, are unhappily too true. Even those parents of whose spiritual experience we entertain no doubt, find it most difficult to get rid of the improper ideas and practices to which they were themselves accustomed in early life; and the consequence is, that the parents are the servants of the children. Our most gifted native assistants are still sadly deficient in the exercise of parental discipline. In their apprehension of Scriptural truth, there is of course great diversity among them. The Gospels they appear to read with more pleasure and interest than the Epistles, evidently because they understand their contents better. I think, however, I may venture to say, that every family has a copy of the whole

New Testament, and that pupils in our boy's and girls' schools are early made acquainted with its contents.

"Of our congregation, I may say that it has afforded us on the whole pleasure and encouragement during the year past; painful occurrences have not been wanting, but the Lord has been our comfort and support in every trial, and enabled us to go on our way. Three married Brethren perished at sea, one of whom was a gifted national helper, whose services we would gladly have retained, for he was a man of peculiar insight into the truths of Scripture, and of a very consistent walk. I must here observe, in reply to your remark on the importance of the Greenlanders residing at the out-stations being well supplied with copies of Scripture, that they may have the means of mutual edification always at command, that there are but few, alas! of these poor people who are able to profit by the possession of the New Testament, owing to their want of education;—few, if any of the children belonging to these exiled families, having had an opportunity of attending our school. Our Brethren in Labrador have in this respect an advantage over us, the whole of their congregation being with them during the winter, and the children in regular attendance of the schools. We dare not, as you are well aware, offer any resistance to the dispersion of our Greenlanders. Under the circumstances just described, we were particularly thankful, that the great majority of our people living at the out-stations came hither both at Christmas and Easter, and enjoyed with us the blessing of attending the celebration of both those festivals. Several families, indeed, remained with us nearly the whole winter, to give those of their members who had applied for church-privileges an opportunity of attaining to them; and we had, in consequence, the pleasure of admitting a greater number than usual to the classes of received members and communicants.

"In temporals, our Greenlanders experienced the blessing and help of the Lord: though their winter supply of provision was rather short, none of them suffered want. The mildness of the season was such as greatly to facilitate their attendance at the house of God, even old and infirm persons being able to reach it.

"Of the proposed Missionary Institution at Godhaab, I can give you no information. I believe nothing has yet been done towards the erection of the needful building. Whether the Danish clergyman, who, with his wife and two children, was on board a ship that was lost in the spring of last year, was destined for the service of the Mission in the Northern District, I have not yet learned. A calamity like that referred to has not occurred for a period of twenty-six years. The last vessel that was lost, foundered near Godhaab, in the year 1819.

"I am thankful to say, that my family has been favored to enjoy a good state of health. On the 23rd of this month, my dear wife was safely delivered of a daughter, who, with the mother,

is doing well. Br. and Sr. Caspar Koegel, and their two children, have had much to suffer from an irruptive disorder, which has materially impaired their activity. They join us in affectionate remembrance."

From Br. Val. Mueller

"Lichtenau, June 19th, 1846.

"Dear Brother,

"We have again to express our warmest thanks to our esteemed British friends, for their benevolent contributions to the two funds, by means of which our own comfort is so greatly promoted, and the wants of our poor Greenlanders are so effectually relieved. We shall not fail to take advantage of their benevolence, by again ordering a quantity of coal from Europe, the use of which will add to the comfort of our dwellings. The quantity which we have hitherto required, amounts, on the average, to about ten Danish tons annually. This supply becomes more and more valuable, not to say indispensable to us. Drift-wood, which is sometimes plentiful in the neighbourhood of our northern settlements, never makes its appearance in these southern seas, and the brush-wood diminishes in quantity from year to year, owing in part to the extension of the out-posts of the Danish factory.

"The want of well-educated national assistants becomes more seriously felt with every successive year; but it is easier to admit than to remedy the deficiency.

"You will be glad to know that we have now, at every settlement, a comfortable and roomy school-house, well attended during the winter season by a company of eager, and, for the most part, diligent scholars. For the sake of these dear young people especially, I am most anxious, measures should be adopted to complete the revision of the Greenland New Testament, to which, as you are aware, I have devoted a good deal of time for some years past. I fear, however, that, without the aid of some younger Brethren, it will be impossible for me, with my failing eyes and trembling hands, to get through the work.

"I am sorry to say, that we continue to be seriously impeded in our work by the regulations of the Danish factory. We have just received a circular from the inspector of the trade, requiring us to take measures for still further diminishing the number of the Greenlanders residing with us during the winter. Considerably more than the half of our congregation are already dispersed through the Islands, some nearer and some more distant, with which the coast is studded. There are as many as 359 individuals of all ages, who are thus separated from us, and are for the most part deprived of the privileges of regular instruction and edification. The whole number of our flock amounts to 656. To the faithful

exceeding grace of our Lord and Saviour is it alone to be ascribed that these poor people continue to shew such willingness to be led by us, and such a desire after the Saviour and His blessed Word, as we had the joy to witness during the whole of last winter The new school-room was frequented by about sixty young persons of either sex, who made pleasing progress in learning. I had also the satisfaction to observe, that the meeting for religious instruction which I held every Thursday, excited the liviest interest among all who were present at it, both old and young. Many of the females seem to be peculiarly impressed. At Christmas and in the Passion week, we saw our whole flock assembled around us for a short period. These were truly blessed seasons, during which our Saviour was sensibly in the midst of us. We were much edified by the Christian demeanour of one of our Greenland Brethren, who had the misfortune to loose his wife by her being hurried by an avalanche of snow into the sea, and drowned. Being greatly afflicted at her loss, (for they had lived very happily together, and he was left with three motherless children), he came to me and earnestly begged for a copy of the Book of Psalms, adding, that he wished to study and take to heart the words of this book, which were so full of comfort for persons in his situation.

"The Brethren Hasting and Warmo, who are appointed our assistants in this place, join us in affectionate salutations to all our British friends."

From Br. J. M. Ihrer.

"Friederickstal, July 7th, 1846.

"Dear Brother,

"Gladly would I give you some intelligence this year, that might allay the anxiety which I fear my last letter may have caused you. The representation which I then made of the peculiar difficulties and hinderances which we have to contend with in the progress of our labours, I cannot recal, for we continue to feel them, and that daily; but on the other hand, I think I am able to furnish you with some proofs, that the Master whom we serve is mightier than the enemy by whom we are opposed. The word of His cross, which we cease not to proclaim, and the records of His love, and of His eternal truth, which we esteem it a privilege to put into the hands of all who are able to turn them to account, do not fail to produce fruit unto life everlasting, in many of the people under our care.

"I need not tell you, that the Greenlanders, like the Esquimaux, are, among the tribes of the human race, one of the lowest in point of mental culture, but at the same time one of the most high-minded. That they understand the art of managing a *kayak*, and thus acquiring the means of providing nourishment for them-

selves and their families, is a circumstance which seems to lift them above all other human beings in their own estimation. When to this is added the training which they receive from their childhood, and which still savours far too much of the traditions of their fathers, it will not be a matter of much surprise, that they find it very hard to learn the humbling and self-denying lessons of the Gospel of Christ. The failures and disappointments to which these circumstances often lead, may easily tempt a servant of Christ to indulge, from time to time, in expressions which savour of discouragement and little faith. Of these, however, he soon becomes ashamed, when, perhaps unexpectedly, a time of refreshment is vouchsafed from the Lord. And that we have not been without such seasons, you will learn from the concluding portion of my letter, which contains a brief sketch of the principal occurrences of the past year.

"In answer to your inquiries respecting the population of the east coast, I would remind you that Captain Graah, in the narrative of his voyage, estimates the whole number of heathen Greenlanders living between Cape Farewell (60° N. lat.) and the Dannebrog Island (66° N. lat.) at not more than 600; and he expressed an opinion, that, at the time of the publication of his volume, this number was reduced to 480, owing partly to the emigrations to Fredericksthal. As far as we can ascertain, this number is still further reduced to not more than 440, all of whom reside to the northwards of the celebrated glacier of Puisortak, distant about two degrees, or 130 miles from this place. Since the year 1842, not a single heathen family, we believe, has been settled within the last-mentioned limits. From my former communications, you will have learnt that immense difficulties are to be encountered in the attempt to reach the Island of Alluk from hence; these are chiefly caused by the drift-ice and violent currents. To the north of Alluk, the strong current ceases, but the passage is generally barred by the immense masses of ice which beset the coast great part of the year, and render it impracticable to land with a woman's boat. The difficulties of communication with Alluk are, indeed, so great and varied, that heathen, who come from the northward, to the fair, periodically held there, are often unable to return the same year. You may judge from what I have stated, of how little use it probably would be, were we to attempt the establishment of another station to the eastward of this place. In conclusion, I cannot help mentioning, that, in the year 1841, a family of converted Greenlanders from this place proceeded to Alluk, accompanied by the native assistant Jephtha, in the hope of inducing their heathenish relations, who had resorted thither, to remove here for religious instruction. Their earnest exhortations and entreaties, however, effected nothing; instead of yielding to them, the heathens actually quitted their dwelling-place at Ammoretto, and moved to some distance beyond the great glacier.

"While I admit the desireablencss of training, if possible, better qualified native assistants, and should be most thankful to see any measure adopted which might conduce to this important object, the difficulties which are interposed in the way of such a procedure, by the single circumstance of a Greenlander having no regular means of support but those which are derived from the chase, and capture of the seal (to which he must be trained and accustomed from his early boyhood), appear to me at present to be all but insuperable. If any method could be adopted, by which suitable instruction could be imparted to Greenland brethren of mature age and promising character, without taking them away from their ordinary occupation, it might be be well to make trial of it.

"The Lord has mercifully helped us through another year. — My dear wife and myself suffer, indeed, from weakness of sight, and my own bodily powers have been sensibly affected by my many year's labour of gathering brushwood in the Fiorde. I would still mention, knowing your love of music and desire to promote it, that Br. Uellner succeeded last winter, with the help of Br. Kruth, in training a respectable choir of clarionet blowers, by whose help, the singing of the congregation has been greatly revived, and the tendency of the Greenlanders to indulge in shakes and other so-called graces kept in salutary check. Could we get a couple of additional instruments for our band, we should be thankful."

V. WEST INDIES.

Extract of a Letter from Br. J. G. Herman.

"Bridgetown, in Barbadoes, Dec. 22nd, 1846.

"Dear Brother,

"Our voyage from Madeira to this island, our first place both of rest and of labour, was, as might be expected, less stormy than that from England across the Bay of Biscay; nevertheless, we welcomed the sight of Barbadoes, on the morning of the 9th instant, with heartfelt pleasure, and with gratitude to the Lord, for bringing us safe thus far. The appearance of the island was charming to the eye; and as we approached nearer, the beauiiful verdure of the canefields, and the novel sight of sundry trees, hitherto known to us only from prints, were striking in the extreme. About 9 a. m., we came to an anchor; and immediately after, Br. Titterington came on board, bidding us cordial welcome. By the same boat we went on shore in his company, with our luggage, and were transferred to his dwelling, close to our Mission-Church in the Roebuck. Our dear Br. Ellis from Sharon also arrived soon after we landed, and, in the course of the morning, Br. and Ss. Zippel from Mount-Tabor, and Br. and Sr. Oerter from Clifton-Hill likewise came to bid us heartily welcome, to

Barbadoes. All these our dear fellow-servants we found in good health, and we could not but rejoice together in the Lord our Saviour, and bless Him for His manifold mercies. According to agreement, we went the same evening with Br. Ellis to Sharon, intending to commence our labours there. On our arrival after dark, while slowly driving up the gentle hill on which Sharon stands, between two rows of cocoa-nut-trees and cabbage-palms, we were saluted by the sound of voices, singing a hymn. On coming near the dwelling, we found the children of the school, under the leading of Sr. Ellis, Br. and Sr. Roentgen, and Br. Charles Ellis, expressing thus their welcome to the expected Brethren from Europe. The impression upon our minds and hearts, when looking, for the first time, upon a number of negro children, trained up in the way they should go, and raising their voices in a hymn to the Saviour, was most pleasing. The same evening, being the regular time for the evening service, Br. Ellis presented us to the congregation, of whom a goodly number attended; and we had an opportunity of saluting its members, both from our Brethren in Europe, and on our own behalf. In the course of the week, we attended to the business for which we had come hither, regarding the congregation at Sharon, and closed our labours on Sunday; on which day, as also at the services, we were favoured to unite with these dear people, and to address them both in public and private meetings on the all-important subject of our calling and election in Christ Jesus.

"I regret to say, that Br. Ellis, though better than he was a few months ago, is still subject to attacks of illness greatly tending to debilitate his constitution. After thirty years' service in this climate, this is not surprising.

"Commending this congregation and its devoted servants to the Lord, we went on the 13th to Clifton-Hill, Br. Oerter of that station having come to Sharon to fetch us.

"At this place, situated on an eminence about 1100 feet above the sea, we also arrived when it was nearly dark. The congregation being assembled in the church, we were introduced to them the same evening. This flock consists of a portion of the former Sharon congregation; it is not nearly so numerous as the latter is at present. The accession of members is not great, owing to peculiar circumstances of situation, &c. We were glad to find Br. Oerter relieved, in a great degree, of that pain in his head and eyes by which he had been for a long time so distressingly afflicted, and which had caused the entire loss of the sight of one eye. To try such means as may, by the blessing of God, preserve the other, he will, in the course of the spring, visit America, with his wife and children, two of whom are of an age to be placed at school.

"After finishing our labours here, which were comparatively short, we proceeded on Wednesday evening to Mount-Tabor, and

there, as at other places, had an opportunity to salute the congregation assembled for their usual evening meeting in church. Both the church and the dwelling-house of Br. and Sr. Zippel, rebuilt after the hurricane in 1831, are substantial and comfortable, and the premises are in excellent condition. After addressing the congregation once more on Friday evening, we left for Bridgetown on Saturday morning. Here we have now spent a Sunday, (20th December). We had in the morning the usual service of our Church, Br. Titterington officiating; afterwards, a love-feast for our congregation-members, and in the evening again preaching; much after the mode of our English and American congregations. Many persons from the town, both white and coloured, attend our public services at this place.

"We have paid particular attention to the schools, both day and Sunday-schools. There is some difference in them; some are very well conducted; others might, and we hope will, be improved. However, neither the circumstances nor the people are alike in the four stations. We have had two general conferences; the first, immediately after our arrival; the second, yesterday, for concluding our deliberations. The intercourse of our Brethren with us has been marked by great openness and candour; and we have had opportunities of noting down the affairs of each station, as to its internal and external state.

"Br. and Sr. Oerter will probably leave in April or May. His remaining eye is so far better, that the distressing pain is removed. May the Lord bless his visit to America. Both he and his wife are very desirous to return to the Mission-field."

From Br. W. Mallalieu.

"Montgomery, in Tobago, January 2nd, 1847.

"Dear Brother,

"Br. Herman's last letter carried the narrative of our proceedings nearly to the time of our leaving Bridgetown. This took place by the Reindeer, Captain May, after a very unpleasant row of above a mile through a rough sea and squall of wind, and pouring rain. We had an unpleasant night, owing to contrary winds and opposing currents, and did not reach Plymouth, at the head of Great Courtland Bay, till 1 p. m. on Christmas-day, where we had to land in boats. Br. Prince was awaiting our arrival with horses and people, to help to carry our luggage: and we reached Montgomery just as the children were leaving school. The ride of about five miles over shocking roads, troubled and fatigued Brother Herman so much, that he was obliged to give up the idea of visiting Moriah, which at this wet season is unapproachable otherwise than on horseback or foot. The next day, Saturday, Br. Prince accompanied me to Moriah, halting at Scarborough by the way, that we might see some friends there, and arrange for calling at Government-House. Our arrival at Scarborough was

well-timed, inasmuch as the Governor-in-chief. Colonel Reid, was about to meet the Legislative bodies, to most of the members of which we were introduced by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Thornton, and having left our letters, we arranged to call at Government-House on Monday.

"I have neither time nor ability to describe the beauties of the romantic ride from Scarborough to Moriah, of which not twenty yards is on level ground. At times, the narrow road overhanging a deep precipice, seems to be supported by the gigantic bamboos which skirt its sides. Some of these are at least 100 feet high. Moriah itself has a fine situation, and is now surrounded by a number of negro houses. We arrived just as the children were being dismissed. Br. and Sr. Muentzer gave us a hearty welcome; they are now in good health, and evidently labouring in much blessing.

"The Sunday was a very lively day, though not any particular church or congregation festival: the Day and Sunday-schools are in a very flourishing state. It being holiday-time, the children of the former came on purpose to meet us on Monday morning, upwards of 150 attending. The Sunday services commence with an adult Sunday-school, held from 9 to 11 a. m. and attended by more than 100 eager learners. Then follows the preaching, then the candidates' meeting, then one for the congregation, and about 7 in the evening, one for singing hymns. The same order is pursued here as at Montgomery, where, of course, the numbers are much larger, about 150 attending the adult school, and upwards of 200 that for children. The juvenile Sunday-school is held after the candidates' meeting. In the evening we attended with Br. Muentzer, the opening or dedication of a new house, which one of the Brethren had built. This is a general custom now, and a very pleasing one: the ceremony is very simple and suitable. The house being not inconveniently filled with the family and friends, Br. M. gave out a few verses, held a very short address, expressive of his hope, that nothing unbecoming a child of God might ever be heard or seen within the walls, and then offered up a prayer for the Lord's blessing, after which a few more verses were sung. I was much pleased by the hearty, affectionate greeting, with which good Br. M. was invariably met by all the people, and to whom he always found something to say.

"On our return to Montgomery, we called by appointment at Government-house, and had a long and interesting conversation, first with the Governor-in-chief, Col. Reid, just removed from Bermuda to Barbadoes, where we could see him, on account of his visit to this island, and with Major Graeme, Lieutenant-Governor of Tobago. The latter is very favourably impressed with the labours of the Brethren in this island, and quite disposed to promote them to the utmost of his power. In the colonial secre-

tary, Mr. Thornton, we have also, as you know, a very warm and steady friend, whose generous aid has been often experienced. Our Negro congregations here in Tobago seem to be cheerfully ready for every good work. The Buxton testimonial, as you are aware, they took up warmly of their own accord; and now they seem much interested for the Antigua Training-school, towards the expense of which upwards of £50 has been collected; and our Brethren are sanguine enough to think, that nearly as much more may be expected. The subscriptions for the expenses of the respective congregations are cheerfully, and on the whole punctually paid, so that there seems a good prospect of this Mission ere long maintaining itself. At this you will rejoice with us.

"With the exception of a slight and transient indisposition which befel myself in Barbadoes, we have both been favoured to enjoy pretty good health. The people here complain of the cold, though the themometer ranges from 75° to 83° in the shade. I am sure I need not ask you to continue to remember us in your supplications at the Throne of grace."

VI. MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

I. Deputation to the West Indies.—On the 9th of December the Brethren Herman and Mallalieu reached Barbadoes in safety, after a voyage of twenty-three days by the Severn steamer. Having visited in succession the four Missionary stations in that island, they proceeded on the 24th of the same month, to Tobago, whence they took their passage to Jamaica, in the first week of January, by way of Grenada. At Kingston, where they arrived at the 15th, they met Br. Brother Pfeiffer, in whose company they reached Fairfield on the 19th. The last letters received from them are dated New-Hope, Feb. 5th, at which date they had already visited Fairfield, Bethany, New-Eden, and New-Fulneck.

II. South Africa.—By a letter which has just come to hand, from Br. Kœlbing, dated December 17th, we learn that the war had by no means ceased in the neighbourhood of Shiloh. On the 2nd of November, Mapasa was again attacked by a body of colonial troops commanded by Mr. Joseph Read, and entirely defeated. He seems at length to be disposed to make peace on any terms, and it is expected that he will be required, to give up all the Territory which he has so long misgoverned. Our Brethren and Sisters at Shiloh continued well, but long for the return of more peaceful times. From Enon, we learn that the Witty river was flowing briskly, on the 15th of November, in the upper portion of its course, and it was hoped would reach Enon in about a week. The fields and gardens were already under irrigation, and there was the promise of a good crop. Br. Schopman, who has

consented to exchange stations with Br. Lehman, intended to set out for Cape-Town as soon as the state of the country permitted. The Brn. Teutsch and Gysin paid an agreeable visit to Robben Island on the 5th of December, and were much gratified by what they saw and heard. On Sunday the 6th, they both preached in the commodious church erected for the use of the lepers, the one in Dutch, the other in English, and, after baptizing two adult patients, administered the Lord's Supper to the little company of communicants. Owing to the occupations of the harvest-season, and the absence on the frontier of several hundred members of their congregation, the Christmas services promised to be thinly attended.

III. Surinam.—On the 19th of December, the company of ten Brethren and Sisters who sailed from Holland on the 29th of October, for the re-inforcement of this Mission, arrived in safety at Paramaribo. On the 29th of December, Br. M. Barsoe was joined in holy matrimony with Sister Anna Catharine Bansleben. In reference to the progress of the Mission, Br. Tank writes: "Our work continues, through the blessing of the Lord, to experience a wonderful extension; in a short time, we may hope to have all the plantations in the colony opened to us. Our great concern must now be, to sow and water and properly cultivate this important field. It is impossible not to acknowledge that the Lord is working mightily with His feeble servants, when we behold the numerous attendance at church, and the great desire for religious instruction. On many estates, they press forward in crowds to have their names inscribed in the class of new people: on some there is not a single individual who holds back, and experience shews that it is for no trifling consideration that a heathen Negro casts away his idols, foregoes his pleasures, and submits to have his conduct closely observed. Br. Wuensche, of Rust-en-Werk, mentions in a letter written in September, that the first Negro baptised at this station, had departed this life; he was blind, but the eye of his faith was steadfastly fixed on his Saviour. On occasion of his interment, the small burial-ground was consecrated for the use of the Negro flock. Eleven persons have been baptized since the beginning of the year. It is pleasant to know, that the baptized Negroes do all they can to induce their heathen countrymen to attend the house of God. At present the school is frequented by from forty to fifty children, who make good progress. Sister Voight maintains her post as instructress of the children and youth on a plantation up the Saramakka, and Sister Hartman a similar one at Berg-en-daal, whence she not long since paid a very interesting visit to the free Negroes on the Saracreek, remaining for a whole week among these barbarous people.

Library of The Theological Seminary
PRINCETON · NEW JERSEY
PRESENTED BY
Mrs. John Coleman
I-7